

ANNUAL REPORT AND DIRECTORY 1997

*Come to the
Fountain*



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1997 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 11	Task Force for Annual Meeting, Dillard University, New Orleans
January 24-25	Convocation of Boards, Louisiana Conference Center
January 26	UMW Sunday
February 14-15	Mid-Year Executive Committee, Louisiana Conference Center
February 28-March 2	Conference Retreat, Louisiana Conference Center
March 22	Finance Committee, Louisiana Conference Center
March 30	EASTER
Spring	Membership Committee
April 10-12	Global Gathering, Kansas City
April 25-27	SCJ President's Consultation
May 16-18	Training for Leaders of Mission Studies for Children and Youth, Nashville
June 2-5	ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 20-24	Regional School of Christian Mission, Abilene, TX
July 15-16	Committee Meetings, Shreveport
July 17-20	Conference School of Christian Mission, Centenary College, Shreveport
September 5-7	Training for Dean/Assistant Dean, Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville
September 18	Conference Executive Committee, New Orleans
September 19-20	UMW Conference Annual Meeting, Dillard University, New Orleans
October-November	District Annual Meetings
October 24-25	District Elected Leaders' Training (DELT), LA Conference Center
November 21-23	Leadership Development Event, Chicago

1998

January 25	UMW Sunday
April 12	EASTER
May 14-17	UMW Assembly, Orlando, FL
June 19-23	West Gulf Regional School

ANNUAL REPORT AND DIRECTORY


1997

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Compiled and Edited by:
Fannie Perkins Reddix
Pat Cobb
Evelyn Evans



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IN MEMORIUM

ESTELLE DARSEY DAMERON

1906-1996

This Louisiana Conference Journal is dedicated in loving memory to Estelle Darsey Dameron for her exemplary leadership through many years of committed service at the local, district, conference, jurisdiction and national levels to the United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations. Estelle married Reverend George Walton Dameron and together they shared a ministry in the Louisiana Conference.

Among her many contributions to us was her presence as an elected director of the Women's Division of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, where she served as a member of the committee which established the first South Central Jurisdiction School of Christian Mission and the first Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission. Her impact on United Methodist Women will continue through the "Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Memorial Scholarship Fund" and her model of helping women, men, children and youth with loving patience and persistence. Her example will continue to inspire us as we look to the future and the many opportunities of service that are presented to United Methodist Women in the name of Christ.

THE PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

PURPOSE OF THE WOMEN'S DIVISION

The Women's Division shall be actively engaged in fulfilling the mission of the Church and shall interpret the PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN. With continuing awareness of the concerns and responsibilities of the Church in today's world, the Women's Division shall be an advocate for the oppressed and dispossessed with special attention to the needs of women and children; shall work to build a supportive community among women; shall engage in activities which foster growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement throughout the organization. (Discipline Paragraph 1317)

THE COVER

The design on the cover was taken from the Annual Meeting Program book. The theme of the Annual Meeting was "Come To The Fountain."

DEDICATION

The dedication was written by Mary Lou Blakeman who is a Bible study teacher and has taught in Conference and Regional Schools of Christian Mission. She worked on many Woman's Society of Christian Service and United Methodist Women district and conference activities with Estelle Darsey Dameron.

OUR POLICY

IT IS AGAINST THE POLICY OF THE WOMEN'S DIVISION TO RELEASE LISTS OF OFFICERS TO ANY ORGANIZATIONS OR COMMERCIAL FIRMS. THESE LISTS ARE PUBLISHED FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL, DISTRICT, AND CONFERENCE OFFICERS OF THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ONLY AND ARE TO BE USED FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE WORK OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

President Sara S. Shingler
475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
Deputy General Secretary Joyce Sohl
475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
Regional Staff Person Sue C. Johnson
P. O. Box 840, Nashville, TN 37202 (615-340-7112)
Director from LA Conference Doris Burnett Brown
12167 Banofax, Baton Rouge, LA 70814 (504-275-0043)

SOUTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION UNITED METHODIST WOMEN OFFICERS

President Jerry Williams
1967 Willow Lake Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63017-7659 (314-532-5934)
Vice President Anne U. Todd
7010 S. Jan Mar Drive, Dallas, TX 75230 (214-363-1468)
Secretary Peggy Wright
3010 Edgemont, Abilene, TX 79605 (915-690-1712)
Treasurer Delores L. Garcia
202 S. Westgate Drive, Weslaco, TX 78596 (210-968-5179)
Additional Member Kathleen Conrad
107 Kansas St., Lafayette 70501-3843 (318-235-1941; 233-7016)

LOUISIANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

President Bishop Dan E. Solomon
527 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge 70802-5720
Secretary Dr. Stone W. Caraway
527 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge 70802-5720

CONFERENCE BOARD OF LAITY

Conference Lay Leader O. Fred Loy
4536 Chelsea Drive, Baton Rouge 70809

CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST MEN

President Jay Hinckley
Route 1, Box 10, Dodson 71422 (318-345-3367)

LOUISIANA CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

President - 1998	Betty Cummings 1007 Emerson Monroe, LA 71201
First Vice President - 1997	Celina Carter 3701 Bruxelles Street, New Orleans, LA 70122
Second Vice President - 1998	Ruth N. Wilson 817 N. Gayoso Street, New Orleans, LA 70119
Secretary - 1997	Ruth Waits Box 523, Barksdale AFB, Bossier City, LA 71110
Treasurer - 1998	Vira Thurston P. O. Box 371 Bastrop, LA 71221
Communications - 1997	TBA

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

Acadiana	Terry C. Willis Toulouse Bldg. Suite 211, 850 Kaliste Saloom Rd., Lafayette 70508
Alexandria	Reverend Donald R. Avery 2013 MacArthur Drive Bldg. 2, Suite 2, Alexandria 71301
Baton Rouge	Reverend Leslie P. Norris 5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-2, Baton Rouge 70816
Lake Charles	Dr. J. Lawrence Maddin 816 Kirkman Street, Lake Charles 70601
Monroe	Reverend J. Philip Woodland 909 N 18th, Suite #209, Monroe 71201
New Orleans	Dr. Carole Cotton-Winn 3401 Canal Street, New Orleans 70119
North Shore	Reverend Carl E. Rhoads III 124 Lisa Lane, Mandeville 70448
Ruston	Reverend Jimmie D. Pyles 901 South Vienne, Ruston 71273
Shreveport	Reverend Robert L. Potter P. O. Box 41188, Shreveport 71134-1188

PROJECTS AND DIRECTORS IN OUR CONFERENCE

MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services	Mr. Gerald J. Bridges 1210 E Main Street, Houma 70360
St. Mark's Community Center	Rev. Gregor Dike 1130 N. Rampart, New Orleans 70116
Dulac Community Center	Donna Kay Campbell 101 Coast Guard Road, Dulac 70353
Sager-Brown Enabling Ministries	Sarah Schoeffler P. O. Box 239, Baldwin 70514

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Conference Officers

Constitution and Bylaws Handbook, 1997-2000, pages 5-8, Article II

President Pat Cobb (Mrs. Earl)
7117 Memphis St., New Orleans 70124-3553 (504-288-6962)

Vice President. Hilda D. Sills (Mrs.)
4745 Overton Drive, New Orleans 70122 (504-288-3439)

Secretary Fannie P. Reddix (Mrs. Roscoe)
1330 Cambronne St., New Orleans 70118-2002 (504-865-8181)

Treasurer Evelyn Evans (Mrs. Sidney)
100 St. Clair, Natchitoches 71457 (318-352-7123)

Mission Coordinators for:
 Spiritual Growth Annette Fortuna (Mrs. D. F.)
 1133 Finks Hideaway, Monroe 71203 (318-343-0461)

Social Action Muriel Miller (Mrs. Robert)
3702 Carl Road, Alexandria 71301 (318-445-3828)

Education and Interpretation Marie Young (Mrs.)
3017 N 12th St., West Monroe 71291 (318-396-0355)

Membership Nurture and Outreach Harriette Elrod (Mrs. Robert)
111 DeSoto Street, Tallulah 71282 (318-574-4220)

Secretary of Program Resources Gwen Streams (Ms.)
753 St. Charles St., Thibodaux 70301 (504-447-4220)

Chairperson, Committee on Nominations Norma Winegeart (Mrs. Jack)
254 Forest Avenue, Shreveport 71104-4507 (318-869-4744)

Communications Coordinator Rita Parham (Miss)
824 Europe St., Baton Rouge 70802-6013 (504-383-2544)

Conference Standing Rules & Guidelines:

Editor, 2 year term 1995-97 Nancy M. Carruth (Dr.)
P. O. Box 267, Bunkie 71322 (318-346-2249)

Historian, 2 year term 1995-97 Judy Greer (Miss)
3820 Fairfield #2, Shreveport 71104 (318-865-5453)

Chairperson, Committee on Standing Rules
and Guidelines, 2 year term 1995-1997 Jean Rockhold (Mrs. Jack)
221 Country Rd., Jonesboro 71251 (318-259-4864)

Chairperson, 1997 Conference Retreat Doris Brown (Mrs. Arnold)
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Dean, 1997 School of Christian Mission Harriette Elrod (Mrs. Robert)
111 DeSoto Street, Tallulah 71282 (318-574-0158)

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Member, Jurisdiction Core Planning Team Kathleen Conrad (Mrs. Clifton)
107 Kansas St., Lafayette 70501-3843 (318-235-1941; 233-7016)

Ex-Officio/Honorary Vice President Bishop and Mrs. Dan E. Solomon (Joy)
7344 Woodstock Dr., Baton Rouge 70809 (504-927-5130)

Nashville Regional Staff Person Sue C. Johnson (Miss)
Scarritt-Bennett Center, 1008 19th Ave. S
Nashville, TN 37212-2166 (615-340-7112)

Honorary Member of Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Lydia Istomina
Posadskaya 49-45
Ekaterinburg, Russia 620086

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Acadiana Kathleen Phillips (Mrs.)
415 Elmwood, Lafayette 70503 (318-984-3352)

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1920 Roanoke, Alexandria 71302 (318-442-3127)

Baton Rouge Betty Pope (Mrs. Robin)
3265 Pope Road, Zachary 70791 (504-654-5059)

Lake Charles Jeroldean Dommert (Mrs.)
173 Roy Dommert Lane. Iota 70543 (318-824-2141)

Monroe Christine Coleman (Mrs. Joe)
2201 Diane Street, Monroe 71201 (318-322-6626)

New Orleans June Sanchez (Mrs. Andrew)
1519 Charbonnet St., New Orleans 70117 (504-948-3677)

North Shore Jane Eubanks (Mrs. William)
205 College Drive, Hammond 70401 (504-345-2485)

Ruston Maxie Garrett (Mrs. William)
100 Jackson Dr., Haynesville 71038 (318-624-0964)

Shreveport Carolyn Colvin (Mrs. John)
4727 Gilbert Drive, Shreveport 71106 (318-868-2870)

REPRESENTATIVES TO GENERAL CHURCH BOARDS

Council on Finance	Lois Heath
Council on Finance and Administration	Dr. Nancy Carruth
Board of Directors, United Methodist Reporter	
Board of Discipleship	
Council on Ministries, Youth Representative	Matt O'Dell
Archives and History	Inez Chrisentery
Committee on Appeals	Rev. Marie Williams
Commission on General Conference, Class of 2000	Dr. Carole Cotton-Winn

REPRESENTATIVES TO CONFERENCE BOARDS AND AGENCIES

Many United Methodist Women are members of Conference boards, commissions, committees and agencies. These listed are "by virtue of their office" or special election.

Conference Board of Church and Society	
Coordinator of Social Action	Muriel Miller
Conference Board of Global Ministries	
President of Conference United Methodist Women	Pat Cobb
Coordinator for Education and Interpretation	Marie Young
Conference Board of Laity	
Conference President of UMW	Pat Cobb
9 District Presidents of UMW	
Immediate past president of UMW	Norma Winegeart
Lay Delegation to General & Jurisdictional Conferences:	Nancy Carruth
Anita Crump. . . . Amy Ward. . . . Carolyn Dove. . . .Seola Callahan	
Dorothy Mae Taylor. . . . Pat Hogan. . . . Vera Packer	
Conference Committee on Nominations	
Conference President of UMW	Pat Cobb
Conference Council on Ministries	
2 from Conference - UMW President	Pat Cobb
	June Sanchez
Executive Committee - Conference UMW President	Pat Cobb
Louisiana Interchurch Conference representatives:	
Representative from UMW	Joyce Reed
Conference Audio-Visual Library committee	
UMW Representative	Rita Parham
Trustees and Boards of Directors:	
United Methodist Children & Family Services of Louisiana	
President of Conference UMW	Pat Cobb
Wesley Foundation, Tulane University	
New Orleans District UMW president	June Sanchez
Wesley Campus Ministry (UNO, SUNO, & Delgado	
New Orleans District UMW president	June Sanchez
Wesley Foundation, Louisiana Tech	
Ruston District UMW president	Maxie Garrett
S. Mark's Community Center, New Orleans	
New Orleans District UMW president	June Sanchez
Dulac Community Center, Dulac	
President Conference UMW	Pat Cobb
MacDonell Children's Services, Inc., Houma	
President Conference UMW	Pat Cobb

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Norma Winegeart, Chairperson (2 yr. term 1997-1998)

Class of 1997: Joyce Armstrong, 4125 Highway 190 E, Slidell 70461
Joan Miller, 4031 Cazan Lake Road, Ville Platte 70586

Class of 1998: Joyce Hazel, 2701 Gen. Moore, Lake Charles 70601
Ethel Lilly, P. O. Box 309, Mansfield 71052
Norma Winegeart, 254 Forest Avenue, Shreveport 71104-4507

Class of 1999: Eloise Cox, Box 76, Jena 71312
Rosalie Pryor, 501 Douglas St., Alexandria 71301

Class of 2000 Betty Tripp, 109 Arizona St., Lafayette 70501
Gail Epperson, 1305 Greenlawn, Slidell 70458

DISTRICT TREASURERS

Acadiana Nardine Broussard (Mrs.)
502 Dutton Dr., Lafayette 70503 (318-984-4931)

Alexandria Dallene Perkins (Mrs.)
P O Box 494, Cottonport 71467 (318-876-2454)

Baton Rouge Linn D. McNary
11882 Twin Oak Ave., Baton Rouge 70815 (504-272-7750)

Lake Charles Barb Young (Mrs.)
909 Inverery, Lake Charles 70605 (318-474-1232)

Monroe Betty Gardner
3101 Stowers Drive, Monroe 71201-1951 (318-388-3565)

New Orleans Evelyn Gethers (Ms.)
4818 Savoie Court, New Orleans 70129 (504-254-1881)

North Shore Ginger Hogue (Mrs.)
206 Mockingbird, Slidell 70458 (504-646-0760)

Ruston Page Harrison (Mrs. C. N.)
709 6th St., Springhill 71075 (318-539-4368)

Shreveport Clarice Moore (Mrs. Howard G., Jr)
121 Chelsea St, Shreveport 71105 (318-865-2900)

ADDRESSES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE

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Lottie Palazzo (Mrs. A. J.) 2221 Elizabeth St., Metairie 70003 (504-887-3958)

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
COMMITTEES 1997

Executive Committee

**Constitution & Bylaws Handbook
United Methodist Women 1997-2000
pages 20-21, Article III, Section I**

Pat Cobb, Chairperson
Hilda Sills
Fannie P. Reddix
Evelyn Evans
Annette Fortuna
Muriel Miller
Marie Young
Gwen Streams
Rita Parham
Harriette Elrod
Norma Winegeart
Bishop Dan E. Solomon
Sue C. Johnson
Doris Brown
Kathleen Conrad
9 District Presidents
Judy Greer
Nancy Carruth
Jean Rockhold
Joy Solomon

Administrative Committee

C & B, page 5, Article III, Section 5

Pat Cobb, Chairperson
Hilda D. Sills
Fannie P. Reddix
Evelyn Evans
Muriel Miller

Committee on Program

C & B, pages 9-10, Article IV, Section 1

Hilda D. Sills, Chairperson
Pat Cobb
Evelyn Evans
Fannie P. Reddix
Annette Fortuna
Muriel Miller
Marie Young
Gwen Streams
Rita Parham
Harriette Elrod, 1997 Dean
Doris Brown, 1997 Retreat Chairperson
Joy Solomon
Nancy Carruth

Committee on Finance

C & B, page 10, Article IV, Section 2

Evelyn Evans, Chairperson
Pat Cobb
Hilda D. Sills
Fannie P. Reddix
Muriel Miller
Marie Young
Rita Parham
9 District Treasurers
Nancy Carruth

Committee on Membership Nurture and Outreach

C & B, page 10, Article IV, Section 3

Harriette Elrod, Chairperson
Pat Cobb
Fannie P. Reddix
Rita Parham
9 District Coordinators of Membership Nurture and Outreach

Committee on Nominations

C & B, pages 10-11, Article IV, Section 4

Norma Winegeart, Chairperson 2 yr. term

Class of 1997:

Joan Miller

Class of 1998:

Joyce Hazel

Ethel Lilly

Norma Winegeart

Class of 1999:

Eloise Cox

Rosalie Pryor

Class of 2000:

Betty Tripp

Gail Epperson

**COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER FOR
RACIAL JUSTICE POLICIES**

C & B, Page 11, Article IV, Section 5

Pat Cobb, Chairperson
Muriel Miller
Norma Winegeart
District President
Executive Committee
Three year terms 1995-1997:
Kathleen Conrad

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES, Continued

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Harriette Elrod, Dean
Joyce Hazel, Asst. Dean
Pat Cobb
Hilda Sills
Fannie P. Reddix
Evelyn Evans
Annette Fortuna
Muriel Miller
Marie Young
Gwen Streams
Nancy Carruth
Gail Epperson, Registrar
Jan Randolph, Housing
Patty Lindsey
Rita Parham
Music leaders
Nurse

COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES

C & B, page 12, Article VII, Sections 1-2

Jean Rockhold, Chairperson
Billie Adams
Sandy DeCelle
Lorraine Sparks
Hessie Watson
Norma Winegeart
Pat Cob, ex-officio

**COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL REPORT/
DIRECTORY, C & B, page 11, Article IV,**

Section 5

Fannie Reddix, Chairperson
Pat Cobb
Evelyn Evans

TASK GROUP ON 1997 ANNUAL MEETING

Hilda Sills, Chairperson
Lottie Palazzo, Asst. Chairperson
June Sanchez, District President
Pat Cobb
Fannie P. Reddix
Evelyn Evans
Rita Parham
3 to be selected by Chairperson

Task Group on Retreat 1997

Doris Brown, Chairperson
Betty Pope, Asst. Chairperson
Gwen Streams
Evelyn Evans
Hilda Sills
Pat Cobb, ex-officio

Task Group on DELT 1997

Norma Winegeart, Chairperson
Fannie P. Reddix, Asst. Chairperson

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND LOCAL PRESIDENTS

ACADIANA DISTRICT

President Kathleen Phillips (Mrs.)
415 Elmwood Dr., Lafayette 70503 (318-984-3352)

Vice President Melba Jackson (Mrs.)
P. O. Box 244, Crowley 70527 (318-942-1800)

Secretary Sharon Coleman (Ms.)
15 Hale, #3, Franklin 70538 (318-828-2902)

Treasurer Nordine Broussard (Mrs.)
502 Dutton Drive, Lafayette 70503 (318-984-4931)

Mission Coordinators for:

 Spiritual Growth Selena Lormand
 203 Printemps, Carencro 70520 (318-896-7219)

 Social Action Dolores Henderson (Mrs.)
 726 Leona St. Morgan City 70380 (504-384-6779)

 Education and Interpretation Alva Charatain (Mrs.)
 P. O. Box 156, Charenton 70523 (318-923-4422)

Secretary of Program Resources Margie Hanna (Mrs.)
523 W. Taft, Lafayette 70503 (318-232-1474)

Chairperson, Committee on Nominations Juanita Legard (Mrs.)
411 Kidd St. #5, Morgan City 70380 (Unlisted)

Membership Nurture and Outreach Ann Joyner (Mrs.)
911 Anderson, Apt. 10, Franklin 70538 (318-828-3928)

Secretary of Publicity & Public Relations Leola Jones
1136 W Grolee, Opelousas 70570 (318-942-7608)

Sub-Districts:

I JoAnn Foreman (Mrs.), Rt 2 Box 112, Rayne 70578

II Thelma Trahan (Mrs.), 142 Hwy 656, Houma 70364

LOCAL PRESIDENTS

Sub-District I

Abbeville (23) Emmy Henson (Mrs.), 110 Olive St. Abbeville 70510

Wiley (20) Rosalie Toussaint (Mrs.), P O Box 183, Lottie 70756

Indian Bayou (42) Dollie Perry (Mrs.), 201 S College, #113, Lafayette 70503

Centenary (20) Bernice Hebert (Ms.), 907 Margaret, Rayne 70578

Jeanerette:

St. Paul (25) Doris F. Solco (Mrs.), 601 Pellerin, Jeanerette 70544
St Peter (38) Teletha Duchane (Mrs.), 630 Trappey St, Jeanerette 70544
Mt Zion/Oliver (13) Joan Crofton (Miss), 830 1/2 Canal Rd, Bldg D-#36, Jeanerette 70544

Lafayette:

Asbury (93) Mary Smallwood (Mrs.) 907 Beaujolais Pkwy, Maurice 70555
Church o/t Covenant(44) Delores Connors (Ms.), 105 Martial Ave. Lafayette 70508
Immanuel (15) Geneva Constantine (Mrs.), 1102 Gilman Rd. Lafayette 70501
First (90) Margie Hanna (Mrs.), 523 W. Taft St. Lafayette 70503-2136
Northwood (12) Betty Tripp (Mrs.), 109 Arizona St, Lafayette 70501
Green Chapel (15) Roxanna A. Hatch (Mrs.), P O Box 104, Lottie 70756

New Iberia:

First (--) Kay Hester (Ms.), 4608 W. Old Spanish Trail, New Iberia 70560

Opelousas:

Louisiana Memorial (12) Bessie Brinkman (Mrs.), 1816 George Dr., Opelousas 70750
St Mark (33) Cheryl C. Milburn (Ms.), Rt 2 Box 55-H, Opelousas 70750
St Martinville/Mallalieu (20) Emily McCoy (Mrs.), 7112 Main Hwy, St Martinville 70582

Sub-District II

Berwick First (10) Sally Belanger (Mrs.), 709 Roder Berwick 70342
Trinity (20) Alva M. Charatain (Mrs.), P. O. Box 156 Charenton 7052
Thibodaux First (20) Tina Gehbauer (Mrs.), 212 St. Bernard St. Thibodaux 70301
Franklin First (31). Sharon Coleman (Mrs.), 15 Hale #3, Franklin 7053838
Walmsley (9) Dorothy Benton (Mrs.), 714 3rd St. Morgan City 70380
Mason (8) Margaret Phillips (Mrs.), 614 Knight St. Berwick 70342
Calvary (26) Gwen Streams (Ms.), 753 St. Charles St. Thibodaux 70301
Houma- First (80) Judy Foret (Mrs.), 209 Louis Dr., Houma 70364
Bayou Blue (35) Linda Theriot (Mrs.), 1060 West Tunnel, Houma 70364
Memorial (24) Lavena Jester (Mrs.), P. O. Box 304, Lockport 70374
Magnolia (25) Carolyn Moore (Ms.), 211 Winder St, Thibodaux 70302
Pharr Chapel (20) Marlene Hendrix (Ms.), 1005 Walnut St. Morgan City 70380

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

President Margie Morrish (Mrs. Bill)
1920 Roanoke, Alexandria 71302 (318-442-3127)

Vice President Nettie Marie Williams (Mrs.)
2518 Houston St., Alexandria 71301 (318-445-8321)

Secretary Judy Holt (Mrs. Kenneth)
5819 Caroline Dr., Alexandria 71301 (318-442-1527)

Treasurer Dallene Perkins (Mrs.)
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Mission Coordinators for:

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Social Action Gladys Revels (Mrs. Earl)
912 Fifth St. Natchitoches 71457 (318-352-1485)

Education and Interpretation Willie Mae Kimbrough (Mrs.)
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Membership Nurture and Outreach Lena Henderson (Mrs. Wiley)
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Secretary of Program Resources Kathleen Thom (Mrs.)
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Chairperson, Committee on Nominations Janet Ward (Mrs.)
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P. O. Box 1029, Bunkie 71322 (318-346-2269)

Historian Earlena Crammer (Mrs.)
185 Rosier Rd, Deville 71328 (318-466-3830)

LOCAL PRESIDENTS

Alexandria:

First (195) Maunette Risher (Mrs.), 5117 Alexandria Dr., Alexandria 71303
Horseshoe Drive (65) Sandy Risley (Mrs.), 3914 Jennifer St., Alexandria 71302
Newman (50) Vonda B. Clark (Mrs.), 3047 Spencer St., Alexandria 71302
St Mark (20) Betty Rainey (Mrs.), 603 Daspit St, Alexandria 71302
Trinity (26) Elva Doyle (Mrs.), 5410 Mar-Bud Trace, Pineville 71360-9380
Wilton (26) Nettie Marie Williams (Mrs.), 2518 Houston St., Alexandria 71301

Bunkie:

David Haas (20) Veda Deville (Mrs.), 205 Slaughterhouse Rd., Bunkie 71322
Trinity (19) Lutishia Girtley (Mrs. Thomas), 4906 Smith Ave, Alexandria 71302
Wesley (25) Malinda Irving (Mrs.), 3803 Morris St, Alexandria 71302

Deville-Bethel () Temporarily Disbanded

Hineston-Fellowship (13) Judy McDonald (Mrs. Bill), 59 Sandy Lane, Hineston 71438

Nolly Memorial (52) Genie Jones (Mrs.), 219 W. Tennessee St., Jena 71342

Marksville (14) Sue LaPrairie (Mrs. Keith), 423 S. Washington St., Marksville 71351

Natchitoches:

Asbury (20) Gladys Revels (Mrs.), 912 Fifth St. Natchitoches 71457
First (105) Evelyn Evans (Mrs.), 100 St. Claire, Natchitoches 71457
College Ave (15) Debbie Tebbetts (Mrs.), P. O. Box 844 Natchitoches 71457

Pineville:

First (59) Kathryn Shea (Mrs.), 300 Cleco Dr., Apt 101, Pineville 71360
Palestine (36) Carolyn Fletcher (Mrs.) 606 Tioga Road, Pineville 71360
Wesley (10) Julia Lewis (Mrs.), 519 Church St, Pineville 71360

Pollock (15) Kathleen Thom (Mrs.), P. O. Box 94, Pollock 71467

Winnfield-First (56) Kathy Brewton (Mrs. Brian), 107 Dogwood, Winnfield 71483

BATON ROUGE DISTRICT

President Betty Pope (Mrs. Robin)

3265 Pope Rd., Zachary 70791-2950 (504-654-5059)

Vice President Joyce Reed (Mrs. Harold)
10203 Ridgely Dr., Baton Rouge 70809 (504-292-4763)

Secretary Carolyn Shook (Mrs. Percy)
1109 S. Bonnie Gonzales 70737 (504-644-4048)

Treasurer Linn D. McNary (Ms.)
11882 Twin Oak Ave., Baton Rouge 70815 (504-272-7750)

Mission Coordinators:

Spiritual Growth Jessie M. Rushing (Mrs.)
335 N 23rd St., Baton Rouge 70802-3102 (504-383-7175)

Education and Interpretation Brenda Canty (Ms.)
3509 N. 38th St., Baton Rouge 70802 (504-356-7615)

Social Action Pam Gallow (Mrs.)
3237 Vancouver, Baton Rouge 70819 (504-275-7276)

Membership Nurture and Outreach Merrell McGehee (Mrs. Eugene)
P. O. Box 78183, Baton Rouge 70814-4042 (504-261-2526)

Secretary of Program Resources Lana Lathan (Mrs.)
131 Ogden Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806-5013 (504-383-4380)

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Camphor (60) Doris Carter (Mrs.), 1432 Robin St. Baton Rouge 70807
Evangeline (45) To Be Elected
First (220) Toni Gilboy 11227 Glenhaven Dr., Baton Rouge 70815
Francis Asbury (13) No report
Hughes (13) Veargnee Garner (Mrs. Robert), 746 N 37th St, Baton Rouge 70802
Ingleside (66) Agnes Titkemeyer, 1148 Aurora Place, Baton Rouge 70806
Jefferson (57) Myra Myers (Miss), 744 Meadowview Baton Rouge 70810
Jordan (23) Juanita Russell
Magnolia Inactive
Neely (21) Dorothy Conrad (Mrs.), 4455 Wells St., Baton Rouge 70808
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St John (64) Patricia Farmer 5775 Bayou Paul Rd., St. Gabriel 70776
St Luke (26) Lou Alexander (Mrs.) 5637 Matthew Baton Rouge 70812
St Mark (150) Joyce Foster Banks (Mrs. John), 10425 Birchwood Dr., Baton Rouge 70807
University (100) Mary Eleanor Cole, 2108 Cedardale Ave., Baton Rouge 70808
Wesley (50) Mamie Pero (Mrs.) 9423 Southlawn Dr., Baton Rouge 70810

Belle Rose-St James No Report

Clinton:

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Beech Grove No Report

Clinton No Report

Donaldsonville-St Peter: (26) ... Angelina Comminey (Mrs. Herman), 705 E. McGinnis Donaldsonville 70346

Gonzales:

Faithful (11) Betty Bourque, 43028 Hwy. 621, Gonzales 70737

First (25) Ruth Bailey (Mrs.), 930 N. Janice St., Gonzales 70737

St. Landry No Report

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First (27) Phyllis Wilbert (Mrs. S. J.), 59149 Maple St., Plaquemine 70764

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Zachary - Deerford (7) Emma Mills (Mrs.), 11891 Plank Rd # 31, Baton Rouge 70811

Zachary (70) Bonnie Dilmon (Mrs.), 4117 Elizabeth Deborah, Zachary 70791

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

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III Virginia Cutrer (Mrs.), 1326 12th St, Crowley, 70526 (318-783-1149)
IV Dorothy Dunbar (Mrs.), P O Box 34, Church Point 70525 (318-684-6288)

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Ville Platte No Report

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Marrero-St James No Report

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Brooks (40) Constance Saizon (Mrs.), 7416 Primrose Dr., New Orleans 70126

Carrollton (28) Katherine Brown (Mrs. Gene), 1316 Burdette St., New Orleans 70118
 Cornerstone (25) Janice Polk (Mrs.), 1512 Virginia Marie, New Orleans 70122
 First (34) Francis Webb (Mrs. Watts), 21 Park Island Dr, New Orleans 70122
 First Street (36) Bettie Ann White (Mrs.), 4955 Baccich, New Orleans 70122
 Grace (22) Leona H. Butler (Mrs.), 4964 Miles Dr, New Orleans 70122
 Hartzell (14) Anna Butler (Mrs. Edward) 5700 Pauline Dr., New Orleans 70127
 Haven (25) Mary N. Johnson (Mrs. James), 8525 Plum St, New Orleans 70118
 Korean () Young Park (Mrs.), 4429 Sanfield St., Metairie 70006
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 Mt Zion (150) Jeanette J. Wilson (Mrs.) 5242 Michoud Blvd., New Orleans 70129
 Napoleon (15) Henrietta Harrison (Mrs.) 1716 S. Saratoga #D, New Orleans 70113
 Parker () No Report
 Peck (15) Betty Crockett (Mrs. Clarence), 10241 Plainfield, New Orleans 70127
 Peoples (10) Gail Beaman, 1929 Wilton Dr, New Orleans 70122
 Phillips Memorial (45) Rosemary St Cry Smith (Mrs.), 1607 Mirabeau Ave, New Orleans 70122
 Rayne Memorial (48) Genie Newman (Mrs. John), 11 Newcomb Blvd. New Orleans 70118
 St Luke's (54) Leslie Ward (Mrs. Kenny) 316 Brockenbraugh Ct., Metairie 70005
 Shaw Temple () Lois Kennedy, 1600 Pratt Drive, New Orleans 70122
 Trinity of Gentilly (21) Margaret Vest (Mrs. James), 2039 Franklin Ave, New Orleans 70117
 Trinity (Valence) -() Elnora Cushenberry, 7361 Northgate Dr., New Orleans 70128
 Wesley - No Report

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Harry's Chapel No Report
Thirkiel (17) Cynthia B. Jackson (Mrs.) 1300 Sullivan Drive, Bogalusa 70427

Bush: Waldheim (10) Lucy Meredith (Mrs. Sam), 25483 Hwy 40, Bush 70431

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Mt. Hermon No Report

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1834 Willow Point Dr., Shreveport 71119 (318-636-1985)

Historian Mary Ellen Gardner (Mrs.)
P. O. Box 445, Mooringsport 71060 (318-996-7509)

Standing Rules/Constitution and Bylaws Patty Lindsey (Mrs. Robert)
278 Carrollton Ave., Shreveport 71105 (318-865-7608)

Sub District Leaders:

I Ethel Alford (Mrs.), 4974 Dandridge, Shreveport 71109 (318-636-2843)

II Kathryn Rash (Mrs.) 1614 Anita, Bossier City 71112 (318-746-5959)

III Mozelle Tiller (Mrs.), 426 Oak, Mansfield 71052 (318-872-2315)

IV Virginia McConnell (Mrs.), 3013 Meriwether Road, Shreveport 71108 (318-686-0767)

LOCAL PRESIDENTS

Benton (75) Peggy Rumbaugh (Mrs. Harrison), 720 Linton Rd., Benton 71006

Bossier City:

Asbury (50) Linda Stuart (Mrs. John), 234 E. McKinley, Haughton 71037

Barksdale (16) Marie Brock (Miss), 3256 Murphy St., Bossier City 71112

Fellowship (12) Shirley Iedbetter (Mrs.) 4211 Elaine Street, Bossier City 71112

First (69) Geneva Hensley (Mrs.), 2103 Normand St., Bossier City 71112

Haughton (15) Tommie Pepper (Mrs.), 134 Taylors Bend, Haughton 71037

Ida- Rodessa (18) Pauline Reger (Mrs. Gene), P. O. Box 244, Rodessa 71069

Logansport:

First (32) Shelia Clark (Mrs.), P. O. Box 933, Logansport 71049

Love Chapel (24) Linda Miles (Mrs.), 405 Whispering Pines, Haughton 71037

Mansfield:

First (46) Carolyn Palmer (Mrs. Wm.), 312 Jefferson, Mansfield 71052

Shady Grove (25) Alice Shelton (Mrs.), Box 972, Mansfield 71052

Wesley (23) Ethel Lilly (Mrs. Nathaniel), P O Box 309, Mansfield 71052

Many (20) Grace Kelsey (Mrs. Oren), 264 Rabbit Run Lane, Many 71449

Plain Dealing (18) Charlotte Corkran (Mrs. Norman), 1882 LA Hwy 160, Plain Dealing 71064

Shreveport:

Broadmoor (215) Nancy Rorie (Mrs. K.G.), 505 Mockingbird Lane, Shreveport 71105

Christ (100) Beverly Sater (Mrs.), 9905 Chase Island, Shreveport 71118

Fairfield (23) Bessie M. Washington (Mrs.), 1728 Severine, Shreveport 71108

Fairview (8) Vera Jewitt (Mrs. Leon), 10158 Bullitorn, Shreveport 71106

Faith (15) Anitra Jackson (Mrs.), 710 Oxford Rd, Mansfield 71052

First (300) Ruth Waits (Mrs.), Box 523, Barksdale AFB Bossier City 71110

Lakeview (22) Marian Olson (Mrs.), 7124 S. Lakeshore Drive, Shreveport 71119

Johnson's Chapel (12) Betty Cooper 250 E. Dudley Dr., Shreveport 71104
Mangum (73) Ann Haynes (Mrs.), 6305 Garden Oaks, Shreveport 71129
Morningside-Cedar Grove (36) Marge Frady (Mrs.), 7137 W. Canal St., Shreveport 71108
Mt Zion (5) R. L. Washington (Mrs.), 2940 Judson St., Shreveport 71109
Noel (102) Donna Davis (Mrs.), 333 Wayne Drive, Shreveport 71105
Round Grove (12) Inell Myers (Mrs. Tommie), 2573 David Raines Rd, Shreveport 71107
St James (40) Ruby Rye (Mrs.), 3017 Oak Forest, Shreveport 71107
St Luke's (30) Marilyn Hardy (Mrs.), 1823 S. Brookwood, Shreveport 71118
St Paul (47) Ramona Gibson (Mrs.) P. O. Box 897 Shreveport 71162
Summer Grove (91) Virginia McConnell (Mrs.), 3013 Meriwether, Shreveport 71108
Zwolle (15) Pat Walsh (Mrs.), P. O. Box 333, Zwolle 71486
Jewella (22) Lillie Robinson (Mrs.), 4116 Robinhood, Shreveport 71109
North Highlands (80) Wanda T. Simons (Mrs.), 3836 Cornell Drive, Shreveport 71107

1997 BUDGET
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

PLEDGE TO MISSION		\$260,000.00
ADMINISTRATIVE & MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT		
A. Travel Expense: (Insurance, Lodging/Meals, Mileage) Executive & Other Committees, for Interconference Events & Responsibilities & Church Related Meetings	5,500.00	
B. Resources: Officers	350.00	
Resources: Service Center Mailings (3)	90.00	
C. District Administrative & Membership Development	17,705.00	
D. Jurisdiction A & MD (1% of Pledge)	2,600.00	
E. Schools of Christian Mission		
1. West Gulf Regional	7,500.00	
2. Louisiana Conference	13,000.00	
F. Program & Events Within Louisiana Conference		
1. Annual Meeting	1,500.00	
2. District Elected Leaders Training (DELT)	4,000.00	
3. Retreat 1997	-0-	
G. Attendance at Regional & National Events		
1. National Assembly, 1998 (Cumulative 4 years)	2,300.00	
2. Jurisdiction Meeting, 2000 (Cumulative 4 Years)	600.00	
3. National Seminar, 1998 (Cumulative 4 Years)	300.00	
H. Operating Expenses		
1. Conference Directory	2,000.00	
2. Newsletter (Printing & Bulk Mailing)	6,500.00	
3. Postage	1,000.00	
4. Office Supplies & Printing (Copying)	850.00	
5. Telephone	400.00	
6. Audit for 1996	1,800.00	
7. Honors and Memorials	400.00	
8. Dependent Care Subsidy	500.00	
I. Church Women United	300.00	
TOTAL A & MD BUDGET FOR 1997		69,195.00
TOTAL CONFERENCE BUDGET FOR 1997		\$329,195.00

DISTRICTS	ACADIANA	ALEXANDRIA	BATON ROUGE	LAKE CHAS.	MONROE	NEW ORLEANS	NORTH SHORE	RUSTON	SHREVEPORT	CONFERENCE	TOTALS
CHANNELS OF GIVING: PLEDGE	19,000.00	27,000.00	39,000.00	41,000.00	29,000.00	45,000.00	21,500.00	30,000.00	47,000.00	250,000.00	
UNDESIGNATED:											
Pledge to Mission	13,973.43	21,560.41	34,240.03	30,373.05	24,025.55	25,230.75	12,308.18	20,594.77	38,314.43	1,914.28	222,534.88
Special Mission Recognition	1,070.00	890.00	1,280.00	1,580.00	1,290.00	1,050.00	1,180.00	1,520.00	2,170.00	1,270.00	13,300.00
Gift to Mission	490.00	200.00	265.00	2,149.68	507.00	372.50	515.00	470.50	565.00		5,534.68
Gift in Memory	390.00	315.00	575.00	659.00	370.00	290.00	375.86	518.00	830.00	30.00	4,352.86
World Thank Offering	1,513.14	1,703.46	2,964.54	3,211.79	2,077.96	1,423.80	2,098.48	2,564.92	2,426.10	707.70	20,691.89
Conf. Mission Candle	834.59	669.50	1,436.70	1,590.05	1,354.40	1,361.59	736.50	1,213.11	1,902.97		11,119.41
Conf. Mission Ribbons	513.00	609.00	1,154.00	848.00	287.50	466.00	130.00	566.00	908.00	(1,032.00)	4,449.50
Conf. Retiring Officers	94.00	130.00	335.00	296.50	117.50	92.50	177.50	200.00	135.50	(1,004.00)	594.50
1996 Dist A&MD (Unused / Returned)		637.50		500.00	678.61			303.00	99.57	303.00	2,521.68
TOTAL ON PLEDGE	18,898.16	26,714.87	42,250.27	41,208.07	30,708.52	30,287.14	17,521.52	27,950.30	47,371.57	2,188.98	285,099.40
LESS A & MD (Retained/Reserved)											(34,819.09)
TOTAL PAID											250,280.31
DESIGNATED:											
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial	1,018.69	919.80	1,936.00	1,623.45	1,218.87	1,552.51	922.72	1,398.50	2,067.95		12,658.49
Supplementary Gifts:											0.00
General Mission:											0.00
Hope & Wholeness			110.00	350.00	150.00		95.00	170.00			875.00
Assembly Offering											0.00
Scarritt-Barnett Center		5.00									5.00
World Mission - Undesignated	25.00		109.00		12.50	112.00			13.50		272.00
Heiter Project International			25.00								25.00
Beulah Bible College, Israel								41.00			41.00
UMC Jerusalem, Israel								41.00			41.00
Woodstock School Mussoorie								41.00			41.00
Angels Haven Soc. Welfare Society								41.00			41.00
CIEMAL-Cochabamba, Bolivia								41.00			41.00
CIEMAL-Lapaz, Bolivia								41.00			41.00
CCCD-Tegucigalpa, Honduras								41.00			41.00
Maua Methodist Hospital								41.00			41.00
Mary Johnston College Nursing								41.00			41.00
Alkitabiah Meth. Biblical Seminary								41.00			41.00
Main Secondary School, S. Africa								41.00			41.00
UMC Agriculture, Puebla, Mexico								41.00			41.00
ADV #011589-CPA, Chile								41.00			41.00
UMC Kingston, Jamaica, W. Indies								41.00			41.00
UMC Rumble, Jamaica, W. Indies								41.00			41.00
UM Mission to Nepal								41.00			41.00
UMC of Munich, Germany								41.00			41.00
UMC Santa Cruz, Bolivia								41.00			41.00
UM Mission Work, Ireland								41.00			41.00
Kwasuu Women's College, Japan								41.00			41.00
Meth. Mission Hoyo-Ken Japan								41.00			41.00
ADV #011605-8DS Vehicle Fund								41.00			41.00
Army Foundation, P.R. China								41.00			41.00

(Continued)

DISTRICTS	ACADIANA	ALEXANDRIA	BATON ROUGE	LAKE CHAS.	MONROE	NEW ORLNS.	NORTH SHORE	RUSTON	SHREVEPORT	CONFERENCE	TOTALS
World Mission (Cont'd)											
UM Work Konstantin, Poland								41.00			41.00
UM Work in Nigeria								41.00			41.00
UM Work in Russia	20.00							41.00			61.00
Ekaterinburg Meth. Church, Russia											50.00
#982400 Childhood Innumize			500.00			50.00					500.00
European Country Project				70.00							70.00
Missionary Support					225.00						225.00
Church Develop-Bosnia #00022601G						200.00			25.00		200.00
#GCSA-Markay / Lithuania			500.00								500.00
Lithuanian Refugees											
National Mission - Undesignated	25.00				6.25	1,000.00			13.50		1,044.75
Dulce Cooperative Ministries	430.00	375.00	950.00	1,435.00	305.00	1,250.00	746.52	25.00	440.16	700.00	6,656.68
MacDonell's Childrens Services	280.00	260.00	1,330.00	1,155.00	355.00	1,400.00	497.94	50.00	540.00		5,867.94
St. Mark's Community Center	15.00	65.00	925.00	704.45	275.00		250.00	50.00	290.00		2,574.45
St. Mark's Street Academy			300.00	300.00					120.00		720.00
People's Community Center		10.00	145.00								155.00
Alaskan Children Services								41.00			41.00
Potato Project ADV#801-600-0			39.00								39.00
#581337-6 Shiprock, AZ						300.00					300.00
#581535-3 Navajo, NM						300.00					300.00
#982934-1 Brooks, Flint						300.00					300.00
UMCOR - Undesignated	25.00	200.00				25.00	60.00		205.00		515.00
Sager Brown - Baldwin, La.	231.00		100.00	487.50	275.00	200.00	500.00		100.00		1,893.50
Material Resources Collect Depot-La.											0.00
Material Resources Shipping			105.00								105.00
Material Resources-Postage/Libertia	385.00	145.00	155.00	250.17	30.00	15.00	150.00	30.00	290.00		1,450.17
World Hunger						50.00	72.46				72.46
Hurricane Fran Victims, N Carolina			500.00								500.00
Disaster Relief #901670-1			10.00				40.50		3.00		78.50
Crusade Scholarships	25.00		5.00								30.00
Magazine Fund											0.00
WD Transient											0.00
UNICEF						100.00					100.00
Patricia Wise School Dist, North Pole, AK						400.00					400.00
African University, Zimbabwe						500.00					500.00
Pendleton Meth. Hospital, New Orleans	215.00										215.00
Conference A & MD Gifts	421.00	568.00	1,000.00	782.50	422.00	326.13	491.00	474.00	1,114.50		5,599.13
Conference Center Furnishings			25.00	200.00	160.00		1,571.15	200.00	145.00		2,301.15
Conference Directory	43.52	36.00	61.00	51.00	55.24	55.00	38.50	76.00	28.00		444.26
Estelle Dameron Scholarships	25.00	215.00	605.00	250.50	175.00	110.00	145.00	220.00	110.00		1,855.50
											0.00
TOTAL DESIGNATED	3,209.21	2,798.80	9,435.00	7,659.57	3,664.86	8,245.64	5,580.79	3,800.50	5,505.61	700.00	50,599.98
Transient Gifts (Not Incl. in Designated Given	2.00		250.00			300.00		100.00	186.00		838.00
TOTAL GIVING 1996	22,107.37	29,513.67	51,685.27	48,867.64	34,373.38	38,532.78	23,107.31	31,750.80	52,877.18	2,888.98	335,699.38

**LOUISIANA CONFERENCE U.M.W.
BALANCE SHEET - 12/31/96**

	Mission Funds Undesignated (Conf. A&MD)	Reserve Funds Designated By Conf. Exec.	Restricted Funds (By Donor)	TOTAL
ASSETS				
Cash in Checking Accounts:				
Bank One (Natchitoches)	5,000.00			5,000.00
Hibernia National Bank (Metairie)	15,509.99	4,900.00	692.50	21,102.49
TOTAL ASSETS				<u>26,102.49</u>
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES				
Restricted Funds (By Donor for Within Conference)				
1. Estelle Dameron Scholarship Fund			692.50	
2. La. Conf. Center Furnishings			0.00	
3. Transient Designated Funds (To Be Distributed Within Conf.)			0.00	
a. Methodist Home - New Orleans			0.00	
b. Methodist Home - Ruston			0.00	
			<u>692.50</u>	692.50
Reserve Funds (Designated by Conf. Exec.)				
1. 1998 National Assembly (Cum. 4 Yrs.)		4,600.00		
2. 1999 National Seminar (Cum. 4 Yrs.)		300.00		
3. 2000 Jurisdiction Meeting (Cum. 4 Yrs.)		0.00		
4. Conf. Retiring Officer Fund - 1996		0.00		
		<u>4,900.00</u>		4,900.00
Mission Funds (Undesignated - A&MD)				
1. A&MD Funds Held in Reserve For:				
a. 1997 A&MD Gifts + 1996 Interest	5,599.13			
b. 1995 Audit Payable	<u>1,800.00</u>			
	<u>7,399.13</u>			
2. A&MD Funds Retained for Budget 1st Qtr.	12,639.47			
3. Other Funds to be Disbursed/Remitted:				
a. To Women's Division				
b. To Other Sources				
c. Program Resource Sales Funds	471.39			
(Payable to Service Center after receipt of statement showing return credit from DELT)				
	<u>20,509.99</u>			<u>20,509.99</u>
				26,102.49

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UMW - 1996
Administrative & Membership Development

ITEM	1996 BUDGET	EXPENSES & CREDITS	BALANCE
A. TRAVEL (Incl. Insurance, Lodging & Meals)	5,000.00		
1. Insurance		(661.02)	
2. Lodging/Meals: Executive Committee		(927.50)	
3. " " " Other Conf. Committees			
4. " " " Interconf. & Church Meetings			
5. Mileage: Executive Committee		(660.76)	
6. " Other Conf. Committees		(790.75)	
7. " Interconf. & Church Meetings			
Total Travel	5,500.00	(3,040.03)	2,459.97
B. RESOURCES: Officer	140.00		140.00
Service Center Mailings	60.00	(60.00)	0.00
C. DISTRICT A & MD	16,915.00	(15,105.00)	1,810.00
D. JURISDICTION A & MD (1% of Pledge)	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	0.00
E. SCHOOLS OF CHRISTIAN MISSION:			
1. Gulf West Regional	7,500.00	(7,111.97)	388.03
2. Louisiana Conference	10,000.00	(11,430.87)	(1,430.87)
F. PROGRAMS & EVENTS IN LA. CONF.			
1. Annual Meeting	1,200.00	(1,416.20)	(216.20)
2. DELT	500.00	(1,254.63)	(754.63)
3. Retreat 1997 (Deposit Only)	1,500.00		1,500.00
4. Jurisdiction Education for Mission (Dulac Event)	0.00	(1,335.74)	(1,335.74)
G. ATTENDANCE AT REGIONAL & NATIONAL EVENTS:			
1. Assembly, 1998 (Cumulative 4 Years)	2,300.00	(2,300.00)	0.00
2. Jurisdiction, 1996 (Cumulative 4 Years)	600.00	(600.00)	0.00
3. National Seminar, 1999 (Cum. 4 Years)	300.00	(300.00)	0.00
H. OPERATING EXPENSES:			
1. Conference Directory	2,000.00	(1,960.61)	39.39
2. Newsletter (Including Bulk Postage)	6,000.00	(6,084.79)	(84.79)
3. Postage	1,000.00	(490.84)	509.16
4. Office Supplies & Printing (Copying)	850.00	(699.54)	150.46
5. Telephone	550.00	(195.88)	354.12
6. Audit for 1995	1,800.00		1,800.00
7. Honors and Memorials	400.00	(250.00)	150.00
8. Dependent Care Subsidy	1,000.00	(30.00)	970.00
I. CHURCH WOMEN UNITED	300.00	(300.00)	0.00
TOTALS	62,915.00	(56,466.10)	6,448.90

**LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UMW
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
EXPENSE GUIDELINES
(Amended 9/15/95)**

United Methodist Women recognize the need to be an inclusive group and to have elected leaders who represent a diversity of age, race, economic background, and status of employment. To make this possible, a Budget for Conference Administration and Membership Development is approved annually to provide expenses for those chosen to serve in leadership positions. The following guidelines for reimbursement (along with the Conference Budget) seek to expand the concept of what it means to be in mission.

Expense vouchers are available from the conference treasurer and **must be filled out in full** when applying for reimbursement and submitted to the conference treasurer and approved by the conference president and secretary. Expenses for specific meetings should be turned in at the close of that meeting, if possible, or not later than the next week. Expense vouchers should be submitted within the quarter which the expense occurs when possible. **All possible receipts must be attached to expense vouchers.**

Leaders are advised to submit all legitimate expenses for doing their job well. If someone cares to donate supplies or services which normally would be covered under these guidelines, please submit a voucher for those charges and then endorse the check (or refund part of it) directly to the conference treasurer.

Conference officers are asked to pay their own registration fees to Conference events without reimbursement. They are often expected to pay their own room, meal, and travel expenses and then submit the receipt(s) with a voucher applying for reimbursement. If this arrangement causes personal hardship, a cash advance to cover expected costs may be requested from the conference treasurer. Expenses in excess of conference limitations require prior approval.

Every call letter or written announcement of upcoming events requiring "official participation" of conference leaders shall mention further specific plans for financial arrangement(s) not delineated herein (such as whether the individual leaders will pay or sign for meals and lodging).

The following limitations should be noted:

A. Travel Expenses

1. **Thirteen (13) cents per mile shall be allowed for travel by car.** When a minimum 10-seat van is occupied by at least six (6) or more people in a car pool, mileage will be paid at a flat rate of twenty-five (25) cents per mile.

To encourage car pooling, officers will be paid an **additional two (2) cents per mile for each additional rider in a car or mini-van.** When district and conference officers travel together with expenses provided by their respective organizations, they shall submit pro rata shares of the expenses of these groups. Riders other than district and conference officers must assume their share of the expense.

Louisiana Conference UMW
Executive Committee Expense Guidelines
Amended 9/15/95

A. Travel Expenses (Cont'd)

2. Lodging may be reimbursed at a rate **up to \$10.00 per person per day**.
3. Meals may be reimbursed at a rate **up to \$12.50 per person per day** (to be divided between meals as desired). Meals for events that are **less than one day** will be reimbursed at a rate **up to \$2.50** for breakfast, **\$5.50** for lunch, and **\$7.00** for dinner.

B. Officers Resources

Materials which are necessary for information and execution of your job (such as Service Center publications) may be purchased and become the property of the Conference organization. Most of these materials should be maintained in the files you keep and pass on to successors. Utmost care should be taken that we do not needlessly duplicate materials which cover overlapping concerns of other leaders.

C. Operating Expenses

Postage, office supplies, copy charges, long distance telephone charges, and other miscellaneous charges are allowable. Receipts for these expenses are to be attached to the voucher. The use of professional secretarial services and large numbers of xerox copies are discouraged; and prior approval is required for these expenses.

D. Dependent Care Subsidy

A Dependent Care Subsidy plan was adopted April 25, 1992. When a member of the Conference Executive Committee (elected or appointed) is required to attend Annual Meeting, Conference School of Christian Mission, Regional School of Christian Mission, Mid-Year Executive Committee meeting, District Elected Leaders Training, or a Women's Division Workshop, she **MAY** be paid a Dependent Care Subsidy up to **\$30.00 per day** for hired care required for children 12 years of age or under/ or for an invalid (ill, handicapped, blind) parent/spouse/ or other dependent person residing in her home -- providing this is an absolute necessity and that no other family member or friend is available to do this for her.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
MID-YEAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 9-10, 1996

The Mid-year Executive Committee, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Meeting was held at Tall Timbers Conference Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Pat Cobb, President, presided.

Members present: Rita M. Parham, Harriette Elrod, Marie Young, Lou Medlock, Muriel Miller, Emily O. McCoy, Cathy Parker, Joyce Hazel, Norma Winegeart, Lois R. Heath, Ethel Lilly, Christine Coleman, Maxie Garrett, Eloise Sanders, Carolyn Colvin, Joan B. Miller, Rosalie Pryor, Betty Pope, Eloise Cox, June F. Sanchez, Hilda D. Sills, Jan Randolph, Gail Epperson, Pat Cobb, Gwen Streams, and Fannie Reddix. Members absent: Mary Quinones--family illness, Annette Fortuna - another commitment, Joyce Armstrong, Margie Morrish, Judy Greer, Jean Rockhold, Kathleen Conrad, and Nancy Carruth who will be arriving on Saturday.

The roll was circulated for signatures. Deaths: Estelle Dameron, former UMW Conference President was funeralized in January; and former Conference Program Resources Secretary, Luberta Myers' mother was also funeralized.

Pat asked that we would encourage our units to make contributions to the Estelle Dameron scholarship fund this year, and in the future. She indicated that there was only \$32 in the fund at this time.

The meditation was given by Lou Medlock, which was based on I John 4:7-9, entitled "God's Great Love."

The new executive members, Eloise Cox, Christine Coleman, Rosalie Pryor, Betty Pope and Maxie Garrett were introduced.

Appointment Lois Heath and Muriel Miller were appointed to examine the minutes.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as mailed, having made the corrections that were submitted by Jean Rockhold and Lou Medlock, Examiners. I received a postcard from Vera Bulloch informing me that her district had 44 people in attendance at the Annual Meeting, and this correction was also made to the minutes. It was moved by Muriel Miller and seconded by Hilda Sills that the minutes would be accepted and filed.

No correspondence.

LTE (formerly NOTE: Annette Fortuna and Rita Parham were unable to attend. **Eloise Cox** reported that there are many adjectives to describe the Leadership Training Event: from

enthusiastic, to overwhelming, to reverent, to inclusive. She said, that from Carolyn Johnson's opening and welcome address, "The Call We Have," to Joyce Sohl's closing remarks and sending forth, they were completely and thoroughly initiated into the world of United Methodist Women as never before. They were reminded of the importance of the task, and that it will not always be an easy task, but it WILL ALWAYS be a team effort. They were admonished to recognize, accept and appreciate one's culture other than their own. Eloise said that Joyce Sohl also reminded them that sometimes we have to recommit in order to fulfill our Purpose, and that vision comes from the heart.

She truly enjoyed the training and fellowship, and the opportunity to put a face with a name. They were shown a video on Women Organized for Mission, given a tour--via video, of 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York, and were informed of offices and responsibilities in Washington, D. C. In the area of nominations, they were asked to learn all officers' responsibilities, understand that it is a year-long job, keep tenure records/term question sheets, secure personal talent bank sheets for personal information and how to approach and ask someone to serve in a certain position.

Rosalie Pryor reported that the purpose of this Leadership Training Event was twofold, because it included training for both Conference Officers and Committees on Nominations. Emphasis was placed on biblical and theological basics of the purpose of United Methodist Women, and focused on the history, finance, and current issues and concerns of the Women's Division--including a forward look into the future.

It also focused on inclusiveness, multiculturalism and elimination of racism--raising awareness of their connection to the work of Conference Elected Leaders and Committees on Nominations.

For each day, Rosalie gave us a brief synopsis of the leadership training activities. They were welcomed by the President of the Women's Division, Dr. Carolyn Johnson. A film was shown giving the history of UMW, noting how the organization has evolved since the beginning. Now UMW has a new structure that should be in place by 1997. They were given instructions and printed material and guides as to how this new structure was formulated. The ideas and designs came from the local members and non members of UMW, missions teams and focus groups.

An Anti Racism workshop was held on Saturday. This workshop revealed that racism is alive and well; however, there are some things that groups can do to bring about the healing of racial injustices.

President: Pat reported, as president, that she has represented UMW in the following ways since the Annual Meeting:

Attended Methodist Children's Home, Development Committee Meeting at First UMC, Baton Rouge; spoke at the District Annual Meetings of Baton Rouge and Shreveport; attended Bishop's Research and Planning Committee Meeting in Baton Rouge; guest of Women's Division Annual Meeting in Stanford, CT; DELT at Tall Timbers; Institutional Ministries of National Division, Seattle, WA; General and Jurisdictional Delegation Meeting, Bunkie, LA; St. Mark's Board Meeting, New Orleans; School of Christian Mission, Planning Meeting, Alexandria; "Mission in Motion" planning meetings, for New Orleans District and St. Mark's Board; a called meeting of Annual Conference, Alexandria; Annual Meeting Task Force, Monroe and attended Funeral Service for Estelle Dameron, Pineville.

In addition to the above meetings and the reading and paper work they entailed, she has filled in gaps, wherever there was a need. Pat said it is a temptation at times, to get caught up in the business and service of the day. She quoted from Oswald Chambers' book, **My Utmost for His Highest**, "Are we being more devoted to service than to Jesus Christ?" Her prayer is that we will all remember whom we serve. Pat also passed out the information on the UMCOR Material Resources Depot, Sager-Brown Center for Enabling Ministries, Baldwin, LA.

Vice-President: Hilda D. Sills, began her report by commending Kathleen Conrad and her committee for the excellent Louisiana Conference Annual Meeting of 1995. The participants were great and the theme, "Pass It On" was conveyed throughout the meeting by all participants.

She said that since the executive meeting, she has mailed letters to her counterparts, and distributed booklets to those who did not have them. Hilda stressed the need for outgoing officers to give the materials to the incoming officers.

She attended the School of Christian Mission Planning meeting in November, Annual Task Force Meeting in January, and participated in Mount Zion's UMW Sunday celebration. Copies of the "Tree of Life," newsletter from the World Federation of Methodist Women has been sent to her counterparts. She is now working on the 1997 Annual Meeting.

Secretary: Fannie P. Reddix reported that since the last Executive Meeting, God has been working in her life. Through Him she has completed the following tasks: District Elected Leaders Training at Tall Timbers, with 8 of the 9 counterparts present; attended West Gulf Regional Planning Team Meeting in Nashville, TN at Scarritt Bennett; attended the Annual Meeting Task Force Meeting in Monroe; attended New Orleans District Annual Meeting and Christmas Luncheon.

Fannie will serve as the Co-Chairperson of Mount Zion's Annual Style-Show Luncheon for Mission. She will coordinate one of the

worship services at the West Gulf Regional School in June. Our conference will be responsible for a morning praise on Living in a Multicultural Society, a meditation and an interactive display on John Wesley.

The Annual Report/Directories should be ready to be distributed by the end of the month, hopefully at the Finance Committee Meeting.

Fannie will be assisting with the Learning Resource Center and the Audio-Visuals at the 1996 Conference School of Christian Mission. She thanked the Executive Committee for their patience and continued prayers.

Treasurer: Pat gave highlights of Mary Quinones's report. "In 1995, there was an **increase in the Conference Undesignated Giving through the Women's Division by 10%**. Twenty-three thousand, twenty dollars and forty-two cents more was given through the combined channels of Undesignated Giving than in 1994. By working together in 1996, individual members, local units, district and conference mission teams, can continue to "fan into the flame" these gifts from God, and then "**Pass It On**" toward growing, inclusive membership; Christ-centered study and participation, and increased mission for Christ that reaches those close to home and the many also in need around the world.

A copy of the Remittance of Conference Treasurer's Report of the United Methodist Women, and the A & MD reporting through December 1995, was included in this report.

Financial Interpreter: Lois R. Heath reported that an article on the Five Star Units for undesignated giving was sent to Nancy Carruth to be included in the newsletter. A copy of the news article is attached to this report. She congratulated the Lake Charles District for having the largest number of Five Star Units and the Shreveport District for an increase of eight units. St. Luke's of New Orleans is also a Five Star Unit, but will not appear in the newsletter because the article was mailed before she received this information.

Lois said the sale of the ribbons was very successful, and she was sorry that more could not be supplied to the districts that requested additional ones. In her busy life, she attended the meeting on the Conference Center in Alexandria; Vision 2000 meeting at Dillard University in New Orleans; DELT; Baton Rouge District Executive Committee Planning Team meeting and spoke for UMW Sunday at Hughes United Methodist Church, as well as participated at her church.

Annual meeting, 1995: Kathleen Conrad's report was read by Pat. Proverbs 25:11 states "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." The 1995 Annual Meeting evaluation

responses were just that! A total of 176 evaluations were received. The summary of the reports: The highest rating given to the keynote speaker, Mary Lou Blakeman, was on Saturday, September 16 with 94% of the women rating her presentation outstanding. The highest rated meditation was given to Rev. Darlene Moore James, on the evening of September 15--a rating of outstanding by 78% of the women. Special music selection rated outstanding by 68% of the women and was given to Kim Adams, for the Acapella solo "Witness." The overall program was rated as outstanding by 67% of the women. Sending forth was rated outstanding by 60% of the attendees.

Highlighting additional comments that were written on the back of the evaluation forms were as follows: Joys--Hospitality and overall programming was outstanding; having female ministers to lead the meditations was a plus; Mary Lou Blakeman was outstanding on both days; and identification of local task force, by jackets and tee shirts was appreciated. Concerns--More UMW singing; Saturday morning break too long; Consider having a Banquet (purpose to keep women in general area for expense purpose and fellowship); time length of reports; improve manner in which deceased members were recognized; break on last day needs to be shortened.

Quadrennial Meeting Update: Pat gave the highlights of Kathleen Conrad's report. Host hotel Holiday Inn Convention Center; Norma has more applications forms available; other hotels are available; registration deadline is March 1, no refunds will be made after April 1; registration begins at 10:00 a.m on Friday morning, May 3. Arrangements have been made with the hotel to store the luggage, if you arrive before the rooms are ready. The meeting begins with dinner at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and concludes before noon on Sunday. On Saturday, there will be a mission fair in which baskets featuring items representing individual conferences will be given away. Each conference is asked to donate a basket valued at \$20-\$25. She asked that we resolve the matter with the selection and transportation of the basket as soon as possible. Kathleen is at the final meeting of the planning meeting of the Quadrennial Meeting which is February 8 and 9.

Annual Meeting, 1996 Task Force: Pat read the report from Annette Fortuna, Annual Meeting Chairperson. The Task Force for Annual Meeting had its first meeting on January 27 & 28 at First United Methodist Church in Monroe with the following members present: Pat Cobb, Christine Coleman, Harriette Elrod, Linda Hursey, Annette Fortuna, Lou Medlock, Rita Parham, Mary Quinones, Fannie Reddix, Hilda Sills and Lorraine Sparks. Annette really enjoyed the meeting and felt like it was a very productive one. She is excited and looking forward to the challenge. She thanks UMW for giving her the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

The theme for Annual Meeting this year will be "Come To The Fountain." There will be an actual fountain in the sanctuary in front of the altar table. This will be the focal point for the

entire meeting. By hearing the continual running of the water in the fountain, we will be reminded of the new life that we have through the living water of Jesus Christ and then challenged to take this living water out into the world. The theme hymn will be "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing." The theme scripture will be Psalm 36:9--"For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light we see light."

Presentation of reports on Friday afternoon will be handled in a different way this year. We are going to try and make them a little more interesting and a little less dry. All of the details are not worked out at this time. The officers will still play a part in the presentation.

The facilities at First Church are more than adequate for our needs. We will be able to have our Program Resource room very close to where meals will be served. This was a request that was made, and we should have no problem meeting this request. The women at First Church and of the Monroe District are looking forward to being your hostesses. See you in September!

Pat said the new format should move things a little faster and make the reports a little more interesting. All reports will come under this umbrella. Your suggestions and prayers are requested.

The Hope and Wholeness grants are available for young people 18 years of age or older. If you know of a group who may want these applications, see Pat after the meeting.

Since Theresa Hoover has retired, a Scholarship fund has been established by the Women's Division to be awarded annually in the amount of \$5,000- \$7,000. The amount will vary annually and will be determined by December 31st of each year.

The award will be given to a young woman between the ages of 21-35, who has exhibited concern, service and interest in her neighbors. It is not for academic study, but for travel, informal study, learning and exploration. Persons who know of someone who may be interested, contact Pat. Preference will be given to lay applicants.

DELT: Lois R. Health reported that the date for the 1996 DELT is planned for October 19, 1996, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Conference Center or First United Methodist Church. The tentative format could have a speaker--possibly Dr. Judy B. Avery; special emphasis on the new handbooks; or have a meditation instead of a speaker. Even if the Conference Center is not complete, the meeting rooms should be available and everyone would bring a sack lunch.

Conference Retreat: There is a possibility that the Conference Retreat could be held at the Conference Center in 1997. Possible dates are: March 14-16; or March 21-23; or February 28-March 2.

Mid-Year: Mid-Year will be held February 14-15, 1997.

Conference School of Christian Mission: Joyce Hazel, Dean reported that the school committee met at Horseshoe Drive United Methodist Church on Saturday, November 18, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. Members present were: Pat Cob, Harriette Elrod, Hilda Sills, Mary Quinones, Gail Epperson, Jan Randolph, Annette Fortuna, Muriel Miller, Marie Young, Kathleen Conrad and Joyce Hazel. Members absent: Rita Parham, Fannie Reddix and Nancy Carruth.

The evaluation of the 1995 School was discussed. Please be aware that for insurance purposes, the Treasurer should go with persons who need to go to the hospital.

The West Gulf Regional School will be held at McMurray University in Abilene, TX, Friday, June 21 through Tuesday, June 25, 1996. Regional school registration will be Friday, June 21 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The Opening Plenary will begin at 3:30 p.m. and the school will close at noon on Tuesday, June 25. The airport is about 15 minutes from McMurray.

The 1996 theme is "Living God's Vision for a Just World." Louisiana Conference is responsible for an interactive Learning Center Display on John Wesley; Fannie will check on this. We are also to participate in the Sunday Morning Praise on the Multicultural theme. It was recommended that Harriette Elrod would take care of it. We are also asked to submit a logo for the program cover design. The 1997 West Gulf Regional School will be held on June 20-24, 1997, possibly in Oklahoma City.

Our Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission will be Thursday, July 25 through Sunday, July 28. The study leaders are: **John Wesley**--Rev. Fay Barrhartung of Vinton; Rev. Alonzo Campbell of Baton Rouge; Mrs. Lois R. Heath of Baton Rouge; Mrs. Lottie Palazzo of Metairie. **Living in a Multicultural Society**--Rev. Dr. Joe Elmore; Mrs. Billye Elmore, both of LaMesa, CA; Mrs. Betty Ann Keyes and Mrs. Judy Grona, both of San Antonio. **China and Hong Kong**--Rev. Steven Caraway of Lake Charles; Mrs. Iveeta Macintosh of Dallas; Mrs. Gloria Bennett of Monroe; Rev. Kenneth Fisher of New Orleans. Mrs. Cheryl Gillespie will be in charge of arrangements for the children, and will be trained at Scarritt Bennett for the Children's study. Laura Meade will lead the music assisted by Cherry Nunez of Abbeville.

The committee decided to discuss with Centenary the possibility of marking drop-offs on sidewalks, to make it safer. It was also decided that approximately 150 worship books will be

needed. Harriette Elrod was asked to be responsible for arranging for printing.

The children will join the Regular School at least 2 times. Price breaks will be sought for the children, and for families with more than one child attending. The mothers can stay in the children's dorms.

First timers and Estelle Dameron Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the opening session. Gail was asked to put ribbons in the packets of first timers and Estelle Dameron Scholarship Recipients. Jan Randolph and Gail Epperson will also work on providing necessary transportation for attendees. They will also check on insurance.

Two copies of each video will be secured for the studies. The UMW Focus on Thursday, July 25 will include a skit, a question and answer period, and Officer Update. On Friday night, July 26, Annette Fortuna's husband, Dave will be John Wesley for the Focus and Celebration. Saturday will "Focus on Children." Communion meditation will be given by Rev. Faye Barrhartung. The offering -- in honor of children who are attending the school. Annette Fortuna will do "News of the Day."

Registration must be postmarked by July 15, 1996. Late registrants may not be able to get the roommate of their choice. Advance registration \$10, and \$15 for late registration. Separate tables will be provided for dormitory attendees and off-campus attendees. Centenary's address will be included in the registration material. If possible, meal tickets will be issued the night before to the executive committee and study leaders. It will also be requested that Centenary provide extra keys or have someone on-site available at all times.

The committee also discussed the possibility of moving to one spiritual life study in 1997. The program resources and the Learning Center will once again be in the Sub.

Hilda reminded Pat that Joyce Hazel's picture was in the January Response Magazine.

Supportive Community: Lou E. Medlock reported that Supportive Community Certificates were presented at the Annual Meeting to units of the following districts: Alexandria--Newman, Wilton, Wesley Booneville, and Nolley; Lake Charles--St. Luke Simpson, First (Leesville), and New Orleans--Mount Zion.

She had a very successful session at DELT, with five in attendance. Folders and materials were issued to those in attendance and were sent to the others.

Guidelines for the Certificate of Recognition in Supportive

Community for 1996 were given and explained. Lou is preparing material to be sent to her counterparts on FAMILY WEEK, 1996. She updated the Conference Officer Birthday Calendar and mailed one to each officer. One correction is Fannie Reddix's birthdate; it is March 5th and not March 15th.

Lou also attended the Monroe District Annual Meeting, Local Elected Leaders' Training, Board Meeting and Christmas Concert with Guy Hovis at Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, and the Task Force on 1996 Annual Meeting.

Christian Social Involvement: Muriel Miller reported that this has been a rewarding and eventful year for her. She wishes to express her appreciation for the prayers and concern and for welcoming her to the Conference Team. In addition to mailing correspondence to her counterparts, she participated in a skit on the Charter for Racial Justice at Conference Annual Meeting in Lafayette. She taught the study on United Nations at the Alexandria District Mini-School. She was guest speaker on UMW Sunday at Bethel UMC in 1995 and the UMC in Many in 1996. She also attended the planning meeting of the Conference School of Christian Mission.

The annual legislative summary from Public policy, Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries informed them of the 1995 legislative decisions of the effects on women and children and all UMW members were urged to let their voices be heard. Of immediate concern are budget cuts affecting Head Start, Education, and Environmental issues. It is not too late to let both the President and our Congress know that we want them to invest in children and families. She recently mailed brochures to her counterparts and included information and an application blank for the March, 1996 IMPACT Briefing to be held in Washington, DC.

Due to illness, she was unable to attend DELT, however, her husband assisted her in copying and assembling the materials for the Christian Social Involvement notebooks. They were distributed for her by Nell Inman at DELT. Muriel thanked us again, for the prayers, cards, love and support.

Christian Global Concerns: Marie Young reported that seven district coordinators attended DELT. She had a very good session with her counterparts. The information was sent to those who did not attend. She has attended two DELT training sessions and one district Mini-School.

Marie has been in touch with all of her counterparts to remind each local unit of the studies and the Certificates. She is still sending birthday cards to the missionaries on their birthdays and holidays.

Her goal for 1996 is to have 99.5% of our the units reporting

their studies and receiving Certificates for 1996.

Ruston District: Maxie Garrett, District President gave her report on Friday night, because she had to leave. She reported that being the new District President, there was very little for her to report, however, Jean Rockhold passed on the information to her. The 1995 Evaluation Report was completed and mailed to Pat Cobb, Conference President. According to the report, Ruston District had 100% reporting. One new unit was organized in 1995. The report indicates that all of the units are involved in outreach programs and the mission work of the United Methodist Women.

The Mission Team met November 19, 1995, and planned the year's calendar. District goals were made, dates were set for district meetings, and conference dates were distributed.

Maxie said she was the UMW Sunday speaker at her church. The district will have a Spring Meeting in Farmerville on Sunday, March 3. Carolyn Colvin, Shreveport District President, will be the guest speaker.

She is looking forward to an eventful, challenging biennium as Ruston District President.

Committee on Membership: Harriette Elrod, Chairperson reported that each local unit of United Methodist Women is challenged to join the 1996-2002 Membership Campaign. The conference newsletter has printed thorough descriptive articles from Ressie Mae Bass, Women's Division Executive Secretary for Membership on the 1996-2002 Membership Campaign. The theme for this six-year membership focus is "Yes! Count Me IN!" The committee appreciates the attention to membership emphases by inviting Mrs. Twick Morrison as Keynote speaker. Her leadership on Division level in this area will give authority to interesting information to help our membership campaign in Louisiana.

The district chairpersons work hard to communicate the need to report membership enrollment and to report UMW Sunday activities. Each unit's help to make the conference scrapbook attractive and informative and to prove that "You Are Counted In!" is appreciated.

Limited funds reduced the number of scholarships available this past session. Attempts have been made to inform units of the need to budget for giving to this valuable school of mission project. Children are now included in this area of needed scholarship funding. The attendance banner, which is awarded each year at conference school, is the handiwork of Mrs. Mabel Claire Placke and Mrs. Bess Foster.

Harriette said her training at Scarritt Bennett to help prepare for the role of Assistant Dean, was an inspirational and educational experience. The fellowship with dedicated Christian

leadership was an inspiration and motivation to all.

As part of the big push for membership, a poster contest has been announced. Forms, applications and more specific information is available by contacting Harriette.

She said that one of her most rewarding and joyful experiences was to be able to witness the UMW story in local churches. Both to observe genuine love and service and to testify to them about other stories of UMW-mission- each reinforces and strengthens the other- has enriched her life in Christ.

She thanked the Executive Committee for the opportunities to continue the Celebration of Christ in UMW.

Publicity and Public Relations: Rita Parham reports that she plans to highlight the districts by compiling vignettes about each area. A video will be made including something from each district. A video of the past Annual Meeting will be available for the districts to use. The two videos will be condensed into one, and can be used to promote UMW. The videos were basically of the keynote speaker, meditations and other pertinent information. A copy of the article which was placed in the January issue of the conference newsletter was submitted with this report. She also said that she will contact someone who will help in the taping and photographing of important events.

Pat asked whether the district presidents used the video of the 1994 Annual Meeting. The response was that it was not used as widely as we would have liked for it to be. However, Pat said that the video is good to share with people who never get a chance to attend these meetings.

Pat also encouraged the committee to ask their units to participate in preparing the Repatriation Kits for the UMCOR Material Resources Depot at Sager-Brown Center for Enabling Ministries.

Norma Winegeart told us about the revitalization of the church in Lithuania. She said she knew of a minister couple that were in Atlanta preparing to go Lithuania. She said that if you have money to send, contact her and she will see that it reaches them. Norma also shared some of her experiences from the special sessions at Scarritt Bennett for churches with large congregations. There are four large congregation churches in the Louisiana Conference: Broadmoor in Baton Rouge and Shreveport; First Church in Baton Rouge and Shreveport.

The evening session ended at 9:05 p.m. with a prayer led by Pat Cobb.

Saturday Morning 8:15 a.m.

The morning Meditation was given by Jan Randolph.

The Nomination Committee met separately on Saturday morning.

Pat highlighted a few of the statistics for Louisiana from the EVALUATION REPORT which was prepared by Joyce Hamlin, Executive Secretary, Research and Planning. The report of the United Methodist Women, The Conference in Mission, is for January 1994-December 1994.

Editor: Nancy Carruth distributed the newsletters to the executive committee because the mailing was going to be late. She also reminded us that if the district secretary did not want to use her labels, then they should prepare a set of three for each person. The deadline for submitting articles for the School of Mission issue is April 1, 1996. She will be going to Denver, and therefore must adhere to the deadline. Joan Miller asked for dates to help put the newsletter together.

Shreveport District: Carolyn Colvin said her district has had a year of highs and lows. Seven units have not reported, and the evaluations show the disbanding of three units: Trinity, Keithville and Coushatta with a total of twenty-six members. The District Executive Committee is making arrangements to contact these women to include them as district members. District-wide membership is down with a net loss of 345 reported so far. This number should improve by 100 when all units are counted.

She said on the plus side, units gained 82 members including a circle for teens and two for young women. They have begun giving certificates for new circles formed.

The participation of members is up with an increase in attendance at district and conference events; increase in Reading program; and community service projects and use of program materials. The attendance at the Annual Meeting was also up from previous years.

Harriette Elrod set their hearts afire at their Local Training. In spite of the membership problems, the district has received enough money to keep the current pledge at the same level as last year. Carolyn reminded us of the need for linen for the Conference School of Mission. She asked that they be brought to Annual Conference or send them to Patty Lindsey. Carolyn also shared a copy of "Ideas to Increase Circle Attendance," and a flyer on UMW Connectional System.

New Orleans District: June F. Sanchez reported that the New Orleans District United Methodist Women held the Annual Meeting at Trinity in Gentilly. The speaker was Rev. Helena Wright-Butler. The Local Elected Leaders Training was held at St. Matthew UMC in Metairie. The Christmas Luncheon - "Diapers for Jesus" project for

babies and toddlers at Peoples Community Center was also held at St. Matthew UMC in Metairie.

The district membership is stable now, although it fluctuates. One local unit may become inactive whereas another local unit revitalizes by reclaiming members and becomes active.

Women are involved in various mission activities: tour to Dulac, beach retreat, ecumenical meetings, candy for Carville, forum on sexual abuse of children, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, increasing pledges, presenting Special Recognition Pins, and emphasizing Five Star Giving.

Lynn Foil has become a trustee of Tulane/Loyola United Campus Ministry. UMW Sunday was observed with many of the District Officers speaking and participating in the church services. June was the UMW Sunday Speaker at Mount Zion UMC in New Orleans. She has been overwhelmed with excitement over the joyful and enthusiastic women in the district and their mission accomplishments.

Lake Charles District: Pat read Nell Hayes's report. The Lake Charles District United Methodist Women rallied to the cause once again, by meeting the goals and going beyond to better work for the Lord. The Annual Meeting was held in DeRidder at First UMC. The speaker was Rev. Marie Williams. All of the officers attended DELT. LELT was held in Jennings at First UMC with a wonderful crowd of excited ladies. Nell said that the turnout was very good, she had 20 presidents to train. The future plans are to hold the Annual Meeting and LELT together to cut down on the number of meetings on Saturdays.

Lake Charles is proud of its Reading Program, with over 121 readers reported in making us first in the conference. Another first was the Global Concerns Certificates with 15 churches holding studies. Barb Young, district treasurer indicated that they met their pledge for the first time in years. They also had 22 units with 5 Star Giving.

The Quiet Day this year will be a bus trip to Dulac, MacDonell and Sager Brown. The President's Report is 100% complete. Nell spoke in two churches on UMW Sunday: Maplewood and Gueydan.

Acadiana District: Emily McCoy reported that Acadiana has another great year. There is a potential for them to form two new circles this year of 1996. UMW Sunday was a success with most of the units observing and the related programs.

The attendance at Conference School of Mission was improved. Hosting the Conference Annual Meeting at Asbury United Methodist Church in Lafayette was a wonderful experience. All of the local units did a great job in assisting to make this event a success.

The district Annual Meeting was held at Sager-Brown in Baldwin, LA. The speaker was from Abbeville United Methodist Church. She gave a very inspiring message.

The executive committee met quarterly, the goals are the same - to increase membership and attendance at events, and to meet the pledge for 1996. The newsletter and correspondence from the district officers kept the local units informed about the district events. The District Annual Meeting will be held at Calvary UMC in 1996. Emily is looking forward to a better year, even though 1995 was a good year!

Baton Rouge District: Betty Pope reported that the Baton Rouge District overpaid their pledge for 1995 by \$7500, which excited them to increase the pledge for 1996. Fifty-two percent of the units were 5 Star Givers in 1995. At the District Annual Meeting the mission candle burned for 40 minutes and 18 seconds, for a total of \$1,554.13. The speaker, Pat Cobb,'s explanation of what, why, how, who, and to whom of "Passing it On" inspired them to go forth and do just that. Eight officers attended DELT, then went back home to share with local members at LELT.

Plans are underway for a productive 1996. Preliminary reports indicate good observance of UMW Sunday. The Executive Committee has met and mapped out a schedule of events for the coming year. A spiritual retreat is planned for next month at Jefferson UMC. One of the goals for the 1996 is to encourage greater participation in the Reading Program by publishing a brief review of one book in each newsletter. Readers will also be informed of the books that can be obtained from the local libraries.

One unit has disbanded, and due to personal obligations, the district secretary has resigned. The nominating committee secured a replacement without any problems. It's a joy to know that there are such willing ladies in the district.

North Shore District: Gail Epperson reports that 1995 was a very good year for North Shore, despite the tragedies they had to overcome. The membership increased over at least one-hundred, even though they lost one unit. The 5 Star Giving and Reading Program participants increased over previous years.

Gail said that the attendance at all district events was up, as was the spirit behind them. More churches are hosting district-wide mission studies and they are well attended. The Day Apart Retreat will be held every year, instead of every other year. The activities calendar for the remainder of the year includes: Retreat, Mini-School, Annual District Meeting and LELT. One hundred percent of the presidents turned in their reports. She said "There is a sweet, sweet, spirit flowing through the North Shore in 1996."

Monroe District: Christine Coleman, the new district

president said that all of the material that Vera had was sent to her. Vera mailed the presidents' report evaluations to Pat Cobb. Christine said She will prepare a short report and send it to Pat to share with the vice-president and secretary.

Special Recognition Pin: The special Recognition Pin will be given to Patty Lindsey, at the Annual Conference in June.

Charter for Racial Justice: Pat Cobb reported that the committee met on Friday afternoon, February 9, 1996. The district presidents will be asked to recruit 2 units to submit the application forms for the "The Promise Award." They will also be asked to develop some partnering church activities. In New Orleans District, Mount Zion and Rayne Memorial has a partnering church relationship. There are 7 criteria on the form, with each part being weighted according to a formula. All of the information about the "The Promise Award" was published in the January, 1995 newsletter.

Dulac Community Center: Cathy Parker reported that Dulac Community Center continues to expand the ministry for the local area around Dulac. The executive Director, Rev. Don Morgan, reported at the last board meeting that a support group for cancer patients had been formed with 14 women and 3 men initially. They meet monthly to help each other cope with this disease as they continue with their daily lives. They also plan to begin meeting weekly during the summer and do handcrafts and hobbies.

The ongoing programs described in the brochure are continuing to grow. The brochure will be filed with the complete report.

The Louisiana Conference UMW's task force on Education For Mission plans to visit Dulac Community Center, October 20-22, 1996 for three days of hands-on work with the various programs at the center. There will be 32 women in the group.

The Jurisdictional had 5 Education for Mission Projects and Cathy attended them all. Five ladies from our conference: Pat Cobb, Marie Young, Muriel Miller, Fannie Thompson and Melba Jackson attended the last hands-on mission work in Little Rock, Arkansas.

St. Mark's: June F. Sanchez reported that St. Mark's Community is a beam of hope on the fringe of the French Quarter and in the Tremé Section of New Orleans. A reunion, "Bring A Message and Make A Promise." was held in November, 1995. The delightful evening ended with touring the building and viewing exhibits from the various programs. June submitted news articles about the center.

St. Mark's Board of Directors is glowing with joy over the administrative improvements and deficit free financial status of the community center as revealed at the January Annual Meeting.

Rev. Gregor Dike, the new Director, was commended for stimulating the positive direction in which the center is going.

An Instrumental Jazz program has boosted the experiences of students in Street Academy. A combination of four funding sources has provided new instruments and professional jazz instructors. Sections of the building will be painted by News Orleans District Youth. The NOMADS have already painted a section.

Needs assessment of St. Mark's Camp in Covington will be sponsored by the United Way. Plans for improvement will be made after the assessment.

The board thanks God for St. Mark's Community Center and the supporters of the center who assist in providing the many services for women, youth, and children.

Regional School of Christian Mission: Fannie P. Reddix attended the Regional School Planning Team Meeting on November 3-5, 1995 at Scarritt Bennett in Nashville, TN. The West Gulf Regional School Christian Mission will be held at McMurry University in Abilene TX June 21-25, 1996. The General theme is "Living God's Vision For a Just World." The studies are: John Wesley, Life In a Multicultural Society and China and Hong Kong.

The LA conference is responsible for an interactive display for the Resource Learning Center on John Wesley; a morning praise of Multicultural Society; and a one-page typed camera-ready meditation. This year, we do not have to do Table Graces. Fannie thought perhaps, someone would design a logo for the cover from our conference. It needs to be done in black and white on 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper, and should be camera-ready. The logo should have an explanation of the design and permission to be used by other conferences, and if not selected for the cover, be used in another part of the program.

She must bring the meditation and the design for the logo to the spring meeting, February 23-25 to be held in Oklahoma City, OK.

Last year, the West Gulf Regional School Team extended special courtesies to the teachers and special guests. Because of the overwhelming response, they want to do that again. Each conference is asked to donate at least 20 items representative of their conference to be placed in the courtesy packages.

The registration information will be given out at the West Gulf Regional School spring meeting. At regional school Fannie will coordinate a closing worship service in connection with the General Conference Session, work with courtesies and worship committee. She thanked UMW for the opportunity to serve as the LA representative to the West Gulf Regional School Team. She said that because of this experience, she has grown spiritually and it

has enriched her life tremendously.

The following persons agreed to do the following for the West Gulf Regional School: Meditation - Gwen Streams; Resource Learning Center Display - Marie Young; Morning Praise - Harriette Elrod, Hilda Sills, Lois Heath, Fannie Reddix, and Lottie will also be asked to join in. Courtesies - Joan Miller will give Fannie a few leads.

Three reports were received after the Executive Meeting weekend:

Program Resources: Gwen Streams reports that this is the beginning of a new task and she is off to a great start! She hopes that she can carry on with same or greater enthusiasm that was exhibited in the past. She is making special request for ideas to increase Reading Program participants. If any unit or district has a neat idea, don't hesitate to Pass It On, so it can be shared with all units.

Gwen said that you can go back five years with the reading lists. If you need a copy, please get in touch with her or your district Secretary of Program Resources. A new big item is the Children's Prayer Calendar. It's truly beautiful and a great idea to get the youth involved in Mission. These calendars will be available at the Conference School of Christian Mission.

As the new Conference Program Resources Secretary, there is a need to update the Secretary-Program Resources Directory. District Presidents, if you have any changes, please let her know as soon as possible.

She said that Program Resources has taken her from Chicago to Tall Timbers. She has been involved in one Installation Service with First Church, Thibodaux; and is presently invited to lead a Mission Study at Denham Springs in the North Shore District. The Mission Studies will involve three churches in the District.

Once again, Gwen said she thanks God for allowing her to serve the Conference and prays that this experience will be overwhelmingly beneficial to all. She is looking forward to the Conference School of Mission at Centenary in July.

LTE (formerly NOTE: Gwen Streams attended the Leadership Training Event in Chicago, IL January 19-21, 1996. She said 1st John 2:1-6 tells us "He is the Propitiation for our sins and not for ours only but also for the whole world." The purpose of the Leadership Training Event was identified as three-fold: 1. Giving a biblical basis for the UMW Purpose. 2. A focus on the history and a look into the future. and 3. Specific training for each Conference Officer. Matthew 4:19 "Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of me.'" Friday's opening session

focused on Dr. Carolyn Johnson's opening Plenary which moved them to remember to demonstrate hope even in the face of killings and crime. Dr. Johnson challenged UMW to make a difference in the life of mission on all levels: local, district and conference.

Gwen said that Saturday's session was focused on Racism which was on one level defined as a bad habit passed on by tradition. God wants our brains and not just the crumbs under the table. Because we are living a multi-cultural society--variety is important. Bible study was conducted by Rev. Cacano, a member of the Rio Grande Conference and Rev. Tweedy Sombrero, of Desert Southwest Conference. The closing worship focused on the purpose as a vision as well as a mission.

She said Joyce Sohl's benediction summarized it all when she said, "Go into the world to both share the gospel and receive it when the word of love and justice come to you. Be the people of God among the people God Loves."

Alexandria District: Margie Morrish District President. The Alexandria District Annual Meeting was held at Fellowship UMC with 40 in attendance. The theme was "Pass It On." The message was given by Mrs. Winderlean Lewis. The business included a pledge service and by-laws were voted upon. One of the highlights of the meeting was the display of the quilts made by the women from the different units. There were 58 quilts and all were given to hospitals: New Orleans Home Hospital and Hospitals for babies with AIDS. The district requested that the quilts go home with the babies.

UMW Sunday was observed in January and some will observe it in February. The executive meeting was held on January 20th with 20 in attendance. All units are urged to support the Mission Projects: Sager-Brown, Dulac, St. Marks' and MacDonell. A committee has been appointed to check into travel plans to the mission project sites. The evaluation forms were slow to come in and five are still out. The next executive meeting is planned for May 25th. The pledge for 1995 was met.

Nominations Committee: The Nominations committee had not finished meeting when the Executive Committee concluded its business, therefore a report will be given at a later date.

At 10:30 a.m. the Executive Committee concluded its business.

Examiners: Lois Heath
Muriel Miller

Fannie P. Reddix, Secretary

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 24, 1996

The Executive Committee, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women meeting was held at Centenary College. The Executive Meeting was called to order immediately after the Pre-School Committee Meeting ended. Pat Cobb, president, presided. At the beginning of the meeting, Pat lit a candle to illuminate the presence of God.

Members present: Hilda Sills; Mary Quinones; Rita M. Parham; Annette Fortuna; Maxie Garrett; Nancy M. Carruth; Jean Rockhold; Lou Medlock; Marie Young; Jan Randolph; Harriette Elrod; Gail Epperson; Margie Morrish; Muriel Miller; June F. Sanchez; Nell Hayes; Betty Pope; Lois R. Heath; Emily McCoy; Carolyn Colvin; Gwen Streams, Pat Cobb; Fannie Reddix; Kathleen Conrad, SCJ; and Joyce Hazel, Dean. Members Absent: Judy Greer; and Christine Coleman who fell and broke her arm.

Gail Epperson gave the opening devotion.

Appointment: Annette Fortuna and Rita Parham were appointed to examine the minutes.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as printed.

Correspondence: Pat received thank you cards from Harriette Elrod - for the Gift to Mission in memory of her mother; and Patty Lindsey - for the Special Mission Recognition Pin. Fannie received a thank you card from Rosalind and Trudy Bell for the dedication of the directory-journal in memory of their mother, Geneva Bell.

President: Pat Cobb reminded the District presidents that there will not be an "Evaluation Form" to be completed this year. Instead there is a census sheet to be filled out by each local woman and compiled by the local presidents, sent to the District president and compiled and sent to her. She cautioned the District presidents to spread the word at their district and local events, and to carefully complete the census sheets. Pat has also asked the District presidents to encourage 3 persons from each district to participate in the Education for Mission Event at Dulac, October 20-22, 1996. Six members of the team that were a part of the Jurisdiction Event, will also be in attendance. The application forms for this event are due to her by September 15.

Rev. Ellen Alston, Associate Pastor of Broadmoor, Shreveport called Pat and asked for permission to have a display and order forms in the lobby of James Dorm at our registration tomorrow for the Cross and Flame pins made by the Russians. These pins sell for \$10 and are a fund-raiser for the Russian Church. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Executive Body said that this would not be possible, because of Women's Division policy.

At the Annual Meeting this year, the format for reporting will be different. Pat asked that

all persons who are to make reports during Annual Meeting to send her a script by September 1. She has the scripts from the Focus Groups, which were held at Regional School to be shared with conference officers who wish to obtain one. Pamphlets on the new structure will be available on the night of the Officer Update, at Conference School this week and are also in the Resource Room.

Vice President: Hilda D. Sills reported that she attended the Task Force on Annual Meeting for 1996 in Monroe; "Vision 2000" at Dillard University; and as a delegate, the South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting of United Methodist Women in Omaha, Nebraska. This first Quadrennial Meeting was a very gratifying experience for her. She assisted in the administering of the Holy Communion, and passing out the souvenir pins to those in attendance.

In May, she attended the planning meeting for the 1997 Retreat with Doris Brown presiding, at Nealy United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge. She has been working very hard, making plans for the 1997 Annual Meeting at Dillard University.

Hilda also attended the West Gulf Regional School at McMurry University in Abilene, TX. Her study was, "Living God's Vision for a Just World." She served on the Committee on Nominations, and again it was a challenge to work with the committee which consists of women from 17 different conferences working to fulfill the work as designed by Women's Division in making this a just world to live in.

In her local church, she coordinated the study, "United Nations," and continues to serve as the treasurer. As an outreach of the study \$100 was sent to UNICEF.

Secretary: Fannie P. Reddix reported that this has been a very active time in her life. She said that she was very grateful to the 'Christian Network' in delivering the 1996 Annual Directories to the Districts. A ten-day tour of Spain was a mountain top experience for Fannie and her husband. She also attended the Task Force for Annual Meeting, 1996 in Monroe, LA.

At the Quadrennial Meeting of the South Central Jurisdiction, she was a voting delegate and nominee for the Women's Division Directors, sang in the choir of 85 voices, and was elected as an alternate for the Women's Division Directors. There were 930 persons in attendance at this Quadrennial Meeting. She expressed her gratitude to the Executive Committee for their prayers and continued supportive community.

Fannie also attended the West Gulf Regional School Planning Team Meeting in February in Oklahoma City; chaired the Worship on the second day of Regional School in Abilene, TX; assisted the Worship, Courtesy and the John Wesley Committees.

At our Conference School, she will assist the audio-visual chairperson. On the local level, she was the assistant chairperson of the Annual Style-Show Luncheon for Mount Zion United Methodist Women.

Treasurer: Mary Quinones reported that at the Conference Annual Meeting last September, the body voted to reduce the Conference Pledge to Missions to agree with the basic formula used by the Women's Division in determining annual apportionments. The pledge was based on actual prior receipts from districts, taking into account the pledges to the districts. The Pledge to Mission that was approved was based on current levels of actual giving, and prayerfully we will maintain or surpass that level so that the Louisiana Conference will be able to meet this Pledge to Mission in 1996.

She said that giving is down by a total of 12% over the first two quarters of this year. Mary encourages each member of United Methodist Women to prayerfully examine individual giving toward our Purpose and Mission; then come together in prayer and examine each unit's budget and opportunities for increased giving. She also encourages seeking the Holy Spirit for guidance and determining how individuals and units can work to help the Conference meet the Pledge to "expand Christ's mission through participation in the global ministries of the Church."

It was recommended by the finance committee that the vice-president should be included on the special mailings list from the Service Center. Because of the new structure, DELT probably should be an overnight training session in 1997 with all of the time used for that purpose.

The complete budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

It was moved by Jan and properly seconded that Mary's report would be accepted.

Financial Interpreter: Lois Heath reported that she been working on getting the ribbons. At this time, she will try to keep the color scheme of aqua or close to the color of water for the ribbon with gold or black printing. She will increase the number of printed ribbons to six thousand.

Lois mailed the information promoting the **Total program of Mission** through the "5-Star Giving", Honoring retiring officers, Mission Book, World Thank Offering, What the pledge is and is not, and the cost to burn the mission candle, prior to this meeting. The 1996 cost of Mission Support to burn the candle is: - 1 second \$.64; 1 minute \$38.55; 5 minutes \$192.77 and 1 hour \$2,313.19.

The special offering at Conference School of Mission will go undesignated to honor the children attending the school.

DELT 1996 Lois Heath, Chairperson reported that DELT will be held at our Conference Center October 19, 1996. Kathleen Conrad will serve as Co-Chairperson. A brief meditation will be given by Dr. Judy Black Avery, and Harriette Elrod will do the sending forth. There were two suggestions from the committee: 1. that there would be small group sessions that would include all of us and the president would give us the changes and the new structure at that time. Transparencies can be made of the structure, and a packet prepared with all of this information

included. Or, 2. have DELT at Mid-year, since the new handbooks will not be available until December. Pat interjected that DELT was discussed in the program committee meeting and the consensus was that we need to keep the pattern as it is. There is enough on-going training that can be done without the new handbooks.

All United Methodist Women Units, Districts, Conferences are to work toward beginning the implementation of the new structure which goes into effect January 1, 1997. With the new structure, the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, secretary of program resources and the chair of the Committee on Nominations remains the same. The four coordinators will now be known as Coordinators for - Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Education and Interpretation, and Membership Nurture and Outreach, with expanded responsibilities.

After a brief discussion about the purpose of DELT and having all district officers attend, district presidents were strongly urged to ensure that their officers attend. The nomination committee was also urged to apprise candidates for new offices of their duties and responsibilities to UMW, when approached to take an office.

Membership: Harriette Elrod reported that packets for the new Membership Campaign 1996-2000 were issued to the executive committee at West Gulf Regional School at McMurry University at Abilene, TX. She said all members of our Louisiana Conference Committee on Membership will receive a packet at this meeting. She has received new and specific guidelines from New York on the correct procedure for organizing new units or reactivating old units. She will be happy to assist and supply the needed information to those who request it. Two new units in her district will be organized this year.

She said that the display table in James Dorm is evidence of the glorious success of UMW Day in Louisiana. All are urged to take time to peruse to see our conference at work.

Harriette reported that the twelve scholars who applied for the school this term are: Gwendolyn Bean, Jennyvea Clements, Marcelle Crow, Mary Beth Crow, Jill Landry, Karnishia Matthews, Brenda Moore, Ashley Ratcliffe, Nick Robinson, Mary Lee Shelvin, Lakendra Thomas, and Angelique White. Newly created special certificates for recognition will be presented to the scholars who attend this year. She is very thrilled about the addition of children to our school. Six children received scholarships this year.

Pat asked Carolyn Colvin to send copies of the special recruitment/reactivate/revitalization packet that she has to the executive committee, which may be of help to us.

Annual Meeting 1997 Hilda D. Sills gave the following report: The 1997 Annual Meeting will be held on September 19-20. She and Pat recently toured the facilities at Dillard University in New Orleans. Dr. Samuel Cook expressed how happy he is that we are considering Dillard University.

Mr. Nick Harris showed them the following rooms that will be available.

1. The meeting would be held in the Chapel.
2. The Resource Room will be in the Social Room which can be locked.
3. Registration will be in Kearny Hall.
4. Room for the President and Guest will be in the Conference Room in the Chapel.
5. There are restrooms in the chapel (2) and a total of 10 or 12 stalls in two nearby buildings.
6. A banquet was discussed for Friday. A separate report will be given on that.
7. Dillard University has an elevator for persons who may not be able to climb the stairs.

Hilda has spoken with Dianna Masters, from Women's Division to be our speaker, and she has consented. Dianna Masters is from Dallas. The following hotels have been contacted: Holiday Inn Downtown-Superdome; Raddison New Orleans and Holiday Inn/Metairie. She has received a call from the Ramada Inn in Metairie, but is still waiting on material from several others.

Committee on Nominations: Jan Randolph reported that Mary Quinones will resign at the end of her term as treasurer. The Committee on Nominations presented the following recommendations:

Nominated for re-election to an additional two year term:

Vice- President

Hilda Sills 4745 Overton Drive New Orleans, LA 70122

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

Muriel Miller 3720 Carl Road, Alexandria, LA 71301

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

Annette Fortuna 1133 Finks Hideaway, Monroe, LA 71203

Nominated for election to a two-year term:

Treasurer

Evelyn Evans 100 St. Claire Natchitoches, LA 71457

Chair of Nominations Two year term

Norma Winegeart 254 Forest Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71104-4507

Committee on Nominations Four year term (Class of 2000)

Betty Tripp 109 Arizona Street Lafayette, LA 70501

Gail Epperson 1305 Greenlawn Street Slidell, LA 70458-2505

Program Committee: Hilda D. Sills, Chairperson gave the following United Methodist Women Conference Goals for 1997:

1. By 1997 We will work toward implementing the new structure as given by the Women Division.

2. By 1997 we will continue to include children ages 7-12 to participate in Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission.
3. We shall work toward increasing certification by the year of 2000 in the areas of:
 - Reading Program
 - Excellence of Studies
 - Charter For Racial Justice Policy (Promise Award) and
 - Membership (Women in Mission Award).
4. To meet our Conference Pledge to Mission
 - a. by an increase of 25% annually (to the year 2000)
 Five Star Certification which includes
 1. Pledge to Mission
 2. Special Mission Recognition
 3. Gifts to Mission (Cards)
 4. Gifts in Memory and
 5. World Thank Offering.
 - b. By encouraging local units to promote individual five star giving.

1996 Annual Meeting: Annette Fortuna, Chairperson said the plans are underway for the Annual Meeting. The complete program and registration form, (which is a little more inclusive) is in the August newsletter. The Annual Meeting is September 20-21, 1996 at First United Methodist Church in Monroe, LA.

1997 Retreat: Doris Brown, Chairperson was not present and Betty Pope, Assistant Chairperson gave the report. The Retreat will be held at our Louisiana Conference Center, February 28 - March 2, 1997, Friday 3:00 p.m. through Sunday 1:00 p.m. The theme is **"Christian Women, Living As Sisters,"** and the scripture is **"Ruth 1:16-18. The Retreat Leader is Rev. Leslie Akin.** Rev. Leslie Akin requested assistants, and the following were suggested: Rev. Juliette Dischner and Rev. Marie Williams.

The music leaders are: Yvette Pearson and Larry Weatherton, the theme song is "There's a Spirit in the Air," #192. Each district president will be asked to submit (2) two names to form a pool from which Rev. Akin can choose as many as needed to be small group leaders. This will be done prior to the retreat. The following tasks have been assigned: Nurse - Lana Lathan; Registration and Name Tags - Betty Pope with Hilda Sills assisting; Printed programs - Doris Brown; Evaluation Forms - Hilda Sills; Personal Meditations, Table Graces, Reading/Resources - Gwen Streams; Publicity - Doris will send information to Nancy Carruth for the Conference Newsletter and to Rita Parham for the Methodist Reporter. The Budget will be based on facility charges. Information should be available from Conference Center by the middle of August.

Committee on Standing Rules: Jean Rockhold, Chairperson reported that the Committee on Standing Rules and Guidelines has not met. However, she is submitting copies today of two new Guidelines: Executive Committee Expense Guidelines and District Presidents' Guidelines. She thanked Maxie Garrett, the previous chairperson, for the information so that these guidelines

could be given out today. Each officer is requested to add them to their Guidelines Folder.

Jean recently conducted a clothing drive in the Ruston District for the women and children of Liberia. On Tuesday, July 23, Jean, the pastor and his wife took a U-Haul filled with clothing to Sager-Brown Center for Enabling Ministries. She is deeply grateful to all the lay and clergy in her district who helped to make this possible.

Charter for Racial Justice: Pat Cobb, Chairperson reported that the first "Promise Award" will be given at our Annual Meeting at First United Methodist Church in Monroe, in September. The recipient will be awarded a framed Special Mission Recognition Certificate. The gift to mission will be for \$100. Two honorable mention certificates will also be awarded at that time. Those districts and local units that did not complete applications for 1996 are encouraged to do so for the 1997 calendar year.

Regional School: Fannie P. Reddix, West Gulf Regional School Planning Team Representative gave the following report. It has become a custom of the West Gulf Regional School Planning Team to provide courtesies for the study leaders at regional school. Each conference was asked to donate items that are representative of their state. Every morning, the courtesy committee prepared and delivered a package of goodies and newspaper to each study leader. Fannie contacted Mrs. Loretta Harrison, owner of Loretta's Authentic Pralines. Mrs. Harrison donated 35 pralines to us. Each conference was also asked to bring a state flag. The lovely Louisiana Flag was loaned by the Secretary of State, Fox McKeithen's office, with the help of Mrs. Susan Taylor, Publicity Director.

Our conference provided the morning praise using the Multicultural Theme on Sunday. Thanks to Harriette Elrod, who spearheaded this worship service, and to Marie Young for the wonderful John Wesley Display, and to Gwen Streams for the Meditation. Fannie expressed her sincere appreciation for having the opportunity to represent the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women for the past three years. Her life will never be the same, because of those wonderful experiences. Regional School 1997 will again be held at McMurry University in Abilene Texas, June 20-24.

The planning meeting is scheduled for February 21-23, 1997. The 1998 Regional School is scheduled for June 19-23. The new representative to the West Gulf Regional Planning Team is Gwen Streams.

Pat announced that Doris Brown, wife of Rev. Arnold V. Brown from the Baton Rouge District, Baton Rouge, LA was elected as a Women's Division Director.

Editor: Nancy Carruth brought copies of the August newsletter to the meeting. She said they will be mailed before she leaves town. She was informed by her postal officials that the newsletter had to be prepared in a different configuration to be mailed, therefore she will not

remain for Conference School. Nancy said she apologies for any mistakes that appear in the newsletter. She communicated with Jan Randolph about nominations over the telephone.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the group that the persons holding offices with name changes will also be re-elected.

Our prayers are requested for the following: Seola Callahan, Centenary Choir, Christine Coleman, Marion Bridges, Ida Elrod (Harriette's daughter), Marie Young and Dick Anders.

District presidents were requested to send the date and location of their 1997 Annual Meetings to Fannie as soon as possible. The deadline for submitting information for the January Newsletter is December 15, 1996. Any officer who wishes to include information in the newsletter, please do so. Pat said that the Lake Charles district had a special article on their mission trip, which will also appear in that edition. Kathleen Conrad said that her Church, Calvary United Methodist Church has a Youth Unit. There are three other churches in our conference with Youth Units.

Kathleen was elected to the Jurisdiction Core Planning Group in May. At the Jurisdictional Meeting, Matt Odell, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Larry Odell was made president of the youth group and Delores Giles from the New Orleans District, Mount Zion UMC, was elected as a Jurisdictional Youth Co-Coordinator.

Pat led us in prayer. The Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Examiners: Annette Fortuna
Rita Parham

Fannie P. Reddix, Secretary

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 1996

The Executive Committee Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women was held at Lea Joyner United Methodist Church in Monroe, LA. The meeting was called to order, immediately after a delicious dinner was served, at 7:15 p.m. Pat Cobb, president, presided.

Members present: Christine Coleman; Annette Fortuna; Joyce Hazel; Nell Hayes; Betty Pope; Maxie Garrett; Carolyn Colvin; Cathy Parker; Mary Quinones; Marie Young; June Sanchez; Muriel Miller; Margie Morrish; Evelyn Evans; Harriette Elrod; Gail Epperson; Jan Randolph; Rita Parham; Lou Medlock; Emily McCoy; Pat Cobb; Hilda Sills; and Fannie Reddix. Absent: Lois Heath; Gwen Streams; Judy Greer and Nancy Carruth.

The devotion based upon Ezekiel about the Shepherd and his sheep was given by Emily McCoy, and all were asked to participate in the Litany For Women.

Maxie Garrett and Lou Medlock were appointed to review the minutes.

Pat announced that as a part of the down sizing because of the New Structure, the Jurisdiction will not be sending representatives to the Annual Meetings, they will be doing other things. Kathleen Conrad is a member of the Jurisdiction and Doris Brown is a member of the Women's Division. They will be honored during the Annual Meeting this weekend.

Pat researched the past dedications of the Conference Directories and discovered that our directory had not been dedicated to Estelle Dameron. The past dedications were: 1979-80 - Amy Ward; 1980 - none; 1981 - Janet Hoffpauir; 1982 - Ruth Carter; 1983 - Bishop Shamlin; 1984 - Lucille Baldwin Sexton and Margaret Barr; 1985 - Nell Reed; 1986 - Norma Winegeart; 1987 - Bishop Underwood; 1988 - Three Women: members of General Boards - Nancy Carruth, Paula Milo, and Amy Ward; 1989 - Janelle McCammon; and 1990 - Bishop Oden.

It was moved by Maxie Garrett and seconded by Pat Cobb that the 1997 directory would be dedicated in memory of Estelle Dameron. Mary Lou Blakeman would be asked to write the dedication.

President: Pat Cobb reported that she has had a very busy and rewarding year representing our conference in the various committee meetings and conferences. Her itinerary included: Research and Planning Team, Conference Nominating Committee, St. Mark's - Board Meetings, celebrations and training, Mission Event Activities, Conference Center Rally, Sager-Brown Dedication, Board of Laity, New Orleans District Day Apart, Methodist Hospital Benefit, General Conference, Dillard University - plans for 1997 Annual Meeting, Annual Conference, General/Jurisdictional Conference Delegation Meeting, Dulac Board Meetings, Conference

Council on Ministries, Regional School, Jurisdictional Conference, School of Mission, Planning and attending Farewell Party for Bishop Oden and Mrs. Oden.

In addition to the items listed above, she will go to Bayou Blue, which is near Houma to present a program. Pat has been in contact with Harry Gardner, Director of the Conference Center, regarding dates and fees. The center will not be available to us for DELT this year. The ladies of Newman United Methodist Church in Alexandria have invited us to come to them. Lois has all of the details. The School Committee is scheduled to meet November 18 at the Center.

Pat said that she has enjoyed an exciting spring and summer; being a participant at General Conference and a part of the election process for the Episcopacy was a great privilege. She has tried to represent us in a manner that would be pleasing to the Lord. She covets our prayers, as the mission team work is continued.

Vice President: Hilda Sills submitted a copy of the minutes from the Program Committee Meeting. This report will become a part of the records. Since July she has been soliciting the support of various United Methodist Women of the New Orleans District to work on the task force for the 1997 Annual Meeting. The speaker is Diana Masters from the Women's Division. She has information on the various hotels which are much more economical than the ones she quoted in July.

Hilda will be calling a meeting in January so that by Mid-Year, only a few of the details will have to be worked out. Pat has appointed Lottie Palazzo as Assistant Chairperson.

Some of Hilda's activities since July included a Luncheon which was given by the Lafon Nursing Home Auxiliary at Dillard University. She said the food was good and the price was very reasonable. She also found out that Dillard provided boxed lunches for their students on Saturday. A flyer is included with this report, indicating that the students will receive the boxed lunch from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Because they will do this on Saturday, September 14, it would not interfere with the preparation of food for us. Perhaps the Annual Meeting Banquet could be held at Dillard. The arrangements could be made when the committee meets.

Hilda has sent the task force committee members a copy of the Annual Meeting Guidelines. Being in San Juan during Hurricane Hortense, was an unforgettable experience. With a few minor problems, she fared well during her visit in San Juan.

Highlights from Program Committee Report: Hilda Sills, Chairperson. Conference Retreat - February 28 - March 2, 1997 - Doris Brown, Chairperson and Betty Pope, Assistant. DELT 1997 October 24-25, Conference Center - Norma Winegeart Chairperson; Fannie P. Reddix, Assistant; Conference School - July 17-20, 1997, Harriette Elrod, Dean and Joyce Hazel, Assistant; Conference School - 1988 Rita Parham, Dean and Pat Cobb, Assistant; Conference

School - 1999 Pat Cobb, Dean and Rita Parham, Assistant. School Committee meeting November 16, 1996.

Secretary: Fannie P. Reddix reported that because of the lengthy report given in July, only a few comments would be made at this meeting. She said she will be sending memoranda to the District Secretaries and District Presidents, regarding the Annual Directory and DELT.

Treasurer: Mary Quinones presented the treasurer's report. She said that the report in the August newsletter showed a decrease of 12% in the giving. She urged all individuals and units to examine their opportunities for increased giving, and at the end of the third quarter, it was up 4%.

The end of the 3rd quarter reflected the following: 1996- \$156,353.95 had been given with \$103,646.05 needed to complete the pledge of \$260,000.00.

Mary said she will call on the Conference tomorrow to be "streams of mercy never ceasing" - "rivers of living waters in support of Christ's mission." By working together this committee can overcome any obstacle that may come our way. She quoted Oswald Chambers as having said, "keep paying attention to the Source (Jesus Christ), and God will either take you around the obstacle or remove it. The river of the Spirit of God overcomes all obstacles. She challenges each as an individual and as a team, to let nothing keep from the one great sovereign Source.

The proposed 1997 budget is printed in the Annual Meeting Program. The Conference will be asked to adopt this budget totaling \$329,195.00.

The final figure for Regional School of Christian Mission expense was \$7,111.97. This was \$388.03 under budget. Therefore the same A&MD expense of \$7,500.00 was projected for 1997.

She said with a few remaining figures to include, the conference budget is just about on target for the Conference School of Christian Mission. For 1996 \$10,000.00 was budgeted and it seems we will not exceed that expense. This was due to the increase in Estelle Dameron Scholarship gifts and everyone being frugal with their expenses, in light of the unknown expense of adding children to the school. The 1997 A&MD expense for Conference School has been increased to \$13,000.00 in anticipation of increased numbers of children and participants.

Financial Interpreter: Rita Parham said that Lois Heath was not able to make it tonight but will arrive early on Saturday morning with the ribbons.

Christian Personhood: Annette Fortuna said that she did not have a report, however she wanted to share a few experiences with us. A prayer breakfast meets at her church on Saturdays, and the pastor sends a note to the one who is being prayed for. She received a note from the pastor (her husband) that said "Prayer Changes things. We said a prayer for you today. Hey Honey! Just wanted you to know that we are lifting you in the meeting up in our prayers. We

are proud of what you are doing, and I know God is too. May God observe every minute of the session."

Annette said that has been a rewarding and humbling experience for her. She has learned a lot. The cover of the booklet was done by her father-in-law. She also typed the book. If there are any mistakes they are mine. Her mother-in-law and mother proofed the book. She felt that the attendance was down, because there were only 375 preregistered. Lorraine Sparks has been a really good Co-Chair. She also covets our prayers, and she is ready to "Come to the Fountain" and go home.

Supportive Community: Lou Medlock reported that she has kept the District Supportive Community Coordinators informed of the communications she received from the Women's Division on issues of concern. She received information on: The RugMark Campaign - a program to eliminate Child Servitude in the carpet industry; Peace with Justice, 1996; Peace With Justice Week - traditionally between World Food Day and UN Day; Family Week - Strengthening Families for Change; Transforming a Violent World; Contract With Women of the USA; Stop Sexual Harassment; Women Abuse, Child Abuse.

Reminders were sent concerning the deadline for Guidelines for Certificate of Recognition in Supportive Community. Lou attended West Gulf Regional School at McMurry College, in Abilene, TX. In the Officer Update, materials were given regarding the New UMW Structure. They were advised to share that information with their counterparts, since this office was being eliminated.

She also attended the South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in Omaha, NB; Louisiana Annual Conference; Conference School of Christian Mission; Monroe District UMW Retreat, West Monroe District Mini School; Board and Committee Meetings of Methodist Children's Home in Ruston.

Certificates of Recognition in Supportive Community will be presented to the following units: Alexandria: - Wilton UMC, Fellowship UMC, Newman UMC and Wesley Bonneville UMC. Baton Rouge District: - Wesley UMC. Lake Charles District: - St. Luke Simpson UMC, Wesley UMC, Sulphur UMC. New Orleans District: - Mount Zion UMC and Kenner First UMC.

Christian Social Involvement: Muriel Miller said as Christian Social Involvement Coordinator during the past year, she has had a rewarding response from the District Counterparts. She received several letters from Anna Rhee, Public Policy Chair from the Women's Division. Anna has kept the state coordinators well informed regarding pending legislation affecting women and children. Muriel has forwarded her recommendations to her counterparts with suggestions for related action.

Muriel has served on the Board of Church and Society which is opposed to the legalization of gambling in Louisiana. She has also served on the Charter for Racial Justice Committee and helped select the award winners for 1996. She spoke at the UMC at

Natchitoches, and gave a Book Review for the Presbyterian Women of the Church of Alexandria. Her other activities included attendance at Regional School, Conference School, participation in skits, preparing a display emphasizing UMW 100% voting drive, secured signatures on a petition urging legislative support of women and children in America. Brochures and handouts were ordered to be given out at the registration tables at Annual Meeting. She is very grateful to the Mission Team for their love and kindness.

Christian Global Concerns: Marie Young said that this is the last report before the name changes under the new UMW Structure. This has been a very good year for her. She started the new year off with attendance at the Mid-Year Executive meeting at Tall Timbers, where good reports were given and goals were set for the new year. She also attended the Jurisdiction Meeting in Omaha, and Regional School in Abilene, Texas. This was a great time for learning. The focus group at Regional School was centered around the New Structure. All of the studies were great. Marie prepared the display from Louisiana on John Wesley for the Regional School. The display will be used at Conference School and Annual Meeting. Her study at Regional School, John Wesley, was taught by Rev. Mary Katherine Pierce from Illinois. She met new friends and enjoyed seeing old friends from previous years.

At Conference School of Mission, something new was added this year: the children, 24 of them. Marie said she felt that this was a starting point for our increase in membership. She said anyone there who watched the children, could not help but praise the Lord. The classes were all very, very good; teachers were excellent; and fellowship was great. One-hundred-thirteen certificates of Excellence of Studies were presented to all 9 districts. Each unit had an outgrowth to mission and that is what Missions is all about.

A total of 60 cards were sent to our missionaries for birthdays and Christmas. The new name for her office beginning in 1997 will be CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION. This office will take over some of the duties of the Financial Interpretation to promote Undesignated Giving. More will be said about this at a later date. May the new structure be a success in every way and help us grow for Mission.

Membership Secretary: Harriette Elrod said that she appreciated all who mentioned the children being a part of the School of Christian Mission. The new packets on Membership were given to all of the mission team at Conference School. New and specific guidelines for the correct procedure for organizing new units or reactivating old units have been issued.

Harriette said she received a Membership Training Event Packet from Carolyn Colvin, Shreveport District President. The Shreveport District had a Membership Workshop Luncheon. The packet contained a compilation of needs recognized and problems solved in their team interaction report. The packet will be filed with this report.

She congratulated the Monroe District for winning the attendance banner at this year's School of Mission. Many of those attending were first timers. What a wonderful way to encourage new UMW membership! Six of the Mission Scholars were children. All UMW

members are to continue to follow the slogan, "YES, COUNT ME IN!"

The scrapbook on UMW Sunday was displayed at School of Mission and will be on display this weekend. Harriette said this is true documentation of our conference at work. She thanks all for helping to record this part of our history.

There were twelve Estelle Dameron Scholars: three were children. Special certificates were issued to the Estelle Dameron Scholars. She asked that we continue our support for this most important part of our mission to others.

Harriette shared a short story about an undeveloped nation in which Twick Morrison was serving on the Membership and Nurture Team. She remembered the testimony of Twick in which she told of

nurturing and outreach. Harriette said that as children we are told first we must listen. When we go out to tell somebody to listen first. And they said when they were there on site, to try to nurture the children, this person in the underdeveloped country said, "I don't understand you, you put your heads down when you pray instead of looking up like you think it is going to happen." Harriette continued...so we look up to receive the spiritual nurture from the fountain, and we reach out, and when we do that, each of becomes the symbol of the cross.

Secretary of Publicity and Public Relations: Rita Parham reported that this has been a very exciting year for her. She has had the opportunity to travel and be educated for mission and is very appreciative. To date, she has sent out two quarterly reports planned for District Secretaries of Publicity and Publicity. A duplicate copy was sent to the District Presidents.

The Learning Center displays at the School of Christian Mission were very well done; thank you districts, you did a superb job! The Shreveport paper ran an article on the children's school.

Rita taught the Multicultural study at the Baton Rouge District Mini-School which was held at St. Mark UMC in Baton Rouge.

She said advance information was published regarding the Conference Annual Meeting in the "Accent Section" of the Monroe News Star. The "Project Good News" is progressing well and she is confident that all districts are working toward getting on line. The latest copy of the "Mission Update" from Women's Division is offering space on the World Wide Web. She recommends that we send in the request form found in the "Mission Update" for space.

She has identified a need to start a Photo file, which would consist of Conference Officers, District Presidents, Jurisdictional Officers, Jurisdictional Representatives...to be expanded as needed. There is still difficulty in having all her news releases published in the Louisiana Methodist Reporter, but she will continue to work on it and ask for your prayers in a finding a solution.

It was brought to our attention that several of the districts did not receive the local

unit survey form from the Women's Division. Pat asked that those who had not received it to submit a sheet of paper identifying the unit/district to her so that she can contact Women's Division.

Baton District President: Betty Pope reported that since the last meeting, she has been busy with various activities. The district was well represented at the Sager Brown dedication, had a good response to the call for kits for Liberia and a successful Spiritual Day Apart in March. The district provided financial help to the four children attending the School of Christian Mission. They also had a number of teenagers attending; one of which participated in the early morning praise gathering on Saturday. The Mini-School was held in August with 15 units represented.

In September, Rita assisted with the study of United Nations for the Baker unit. During the summer they have met with the ladies of St. Paul UMC in Clinton and have planned a chartering service for them on Sunday, September 22. They are very proud of Doris Brown's appointment to Women's Division and will continue to pray for her as she assumes her new duties. Doris will be missed on the district.

Betty is looking forward to her district's Annual Meeting, which will be held at Zachary UMC and LEIT at Gonzales UMC. Three of the ladies from the district will participate in the Mission Education Event at Dulac in October. The District Team is working on a calendar of events for 1997 and hope to have dates and places ready for distribution at District Annual Meeting.

Financially, they are in good shape. The giving is down in some areas; they had less 5 star units this year; the mission candle giving was more than double last year's figures; and Undesignated giving was about the same as last year. They will burn the candle for almost 40 minutes. She is looking forward to another great year in 1997.

Carolyn said she had a request from one of her new local units for information on programs. Harriette indicated that the new Membership Packets includes some information. Hazel indicated that one request on the evaluation sheet from School of Mission was for something prepared on programs. Some of the resources mentioned were: Response Magazine, Ceremonies 1, 2, and 3, and various pamphlets and the Program book.

Shreveport District President: Carolyn Colvin reported that her District Executive Committee had a series of sad events during the spring and summer. In April, Christian Global Concerns Coordinator Yvonne Young's husband, Carlton died; and in June Christian Social Involvement Coordinator Mary Glay's husband, Ed was diagnosed with lung cancer, which had spread. Virginia McConnell, one of the sub-district leaders and new president of Summer Grove's unit, lost her father in June. Vice-President, Gladys Prillerman's mother had a stroke after Gladys moved her in-laws into her home.

Carolyn said, in spite of the difficulties, they have had a busy, fulfilling summer. They

began on June 1 with a Membership Training Event which was a highlight. There were about 35 women in attendance, even though there was a rainstorm that left a flood in which Patty Lindsey's car was flooded. Harriette Elrod, Conference Chairperson, Committee on Membership was invited to attend. Pat requested that a copy of the materials there were used for training be shared with the Conference Executive Committee. The attendees were so enthusiastic they requested a follow-up on program planning which will be incorporated in the Local Elected Leaders Training.

Thirty of the district women served as ushers for the Memorial Service at Annual Conference. The School of Mission was a special time this year with the children being included and being led by the district's Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Cheryl Gillespie. Carolyn's daughter assisted, and her granddaughter participated. The Mini-School was attended by 56 women. The reception for Bishop

and Mrs. Oden was a nostalgic time for First Church in Shreveport. The Shreveport and Ruston Districts provided the refreshment and served them.

Monroe District President: Christine Coleman, reported that the following activities were completed in her district, in spite of her disability with a broken arm. The Monroe District presented four outstanding programs and had three executive meetings at her home. The meetings were held to plan the calendar of district activities for the year. She was happy to have the assistance of her two conference officers, Lou Medlock and Harriette Elrod in carrying out her office responsibilities.

Harriette Elrod, Conference Chairperson, Committee on Membership, and Christine met with the UMW of First United Methodist Church of West Monroe to encourage them to reactivate their unit. The district received the Attendance Banner at School of Mission at Centenary College in July. The district will assist Rev. Latisha Smith in the Open-House Dedication and Gift Shower for the Co-Op Day Care Center of Northeast Campus Ministry. This activity is planned for October at 702 Cole Avenue.

Acadiana District President: Emily McCoy reported that the Acadiana District has come together for the last four years with her as President and has just completed another year with plans that will have a tremendous impact upon the future of the district. Several new circles have been inaugurated and will need a commitment of involvement, time and effort by the district. UMW Sunday was a huge success this year. The celebration provided emphasis on the local church. Emily has participated in several celebrations of United Methodist Women's Sunday and other events.

She said that two local units have been activated and two circles were organized. Also, a youth circle was organized this year. Many of the ladies attended the Conference School of Mission this year. The Day Apart theme focused on Abused Women. The Mini-School was held at Sager Brown and was well attended. Many of the officers attended DELT and returned to LELT with enthusiasm, which made it a great success! The Annual Meeting is scheduled for

October 5, at the Sager Brown Center. Hopefully, the district will meet the pledge this year and do the same in 1997. She said with God being their helper, all things are possible.

North Shore District President: Gail Epperson reported that the North Shore district has been very active; however, the attendance at conference level activities has been significantly lower. UMW Sunday was celebrated in most of the churches. The attendance was up at LELET, and the district wide Mini-School.

Jan Randolph and Gail taught the study on China. Pat Lee taught the Multi-Cultural study and Ester Hammond taught the Wesley study.

District Superintendent Carl Rhoads and his wife Ann led their district retreat.

Gail said that the mission team met regularly; sent several household kits to Sager Brown; sent over \$1400 dollars to the Conference Center and will be helping at a district picnic. She is working with the pastor of "The Church of the Servant," the new church in her district to establish a UMW unit. She has also spoken at four UMW Sunday observances and one Homecoming celebration.

Gail has served as secretary of her District Council on Ministries; served at Bishop's Reception, and served as Registrar for the Conference School of Christian Mission, which has been challenging and a learning experience. She will always treasure her years as district president, and leaves with much regret and perhaps, a little relief.

New Orleans District: June Sanchez reported that the New Orleans District has been involved in many mission projects. Some of those projects are holiday crafts sales, sending candy to Carville, adopting children at St. Mark's Street Academy; preparing gift bags for women prisoners; preparing gift bags for children with AIDS and preparing boxes for Sager Brown Depot. The local units have participated in tours to Dulac, ecumenical meetings, and beach retreats. As of December 1995 there were 1,400 members in the New Orleans District.

The Mission Team's project is "Diaper for Jesus." The diapers are presented to Peoples' Community Center for babies and toddlers. Mission team meetings have been held at Buras UMC and Luling UMC.

June spoke on UMW Sunday at Mount Zion UMC, and Golden Meadow UMC. She was invited to a local unit meeting at Williams UMC and at St. Matthew UMC in Algiers. Attendance at the Day Apart, South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in Omaha, Conference School of Christian Mission, Mini-school of Christian Mission was very good. Four ladies from the district served as receptionists at the farewell gathering for Bishop and Mrs. William Oden, which was held at Dillard University.

St. Mark's Community Center, Tulane/Loyola Campus Ministry and SUNO, UNO, and Delgado Campus Ministry are serving women, children and students with sincere, continuously improving programs. Each agency has held a Board of Directors' training session that was coordinated by a representative from Women's Division. Some of the programs for St. Marks'

include Family Day Care, Cubey, Street Academy, A Community Garden, Tutoring and Computer Classes and A Jazz Project. Pat Cobb and June are members of the Property Committee. June is grateful and thankful to God for the opportunity to serve and work with women in Christian Mission.

Alexandria District: Margie Morrish reported that her District Annual Meeting was held at Hineston UMC. Mrs. Winderlean Lewis was the speaker and Evelyn Evans installed the officers. She said DELT was well attended and was held at Newman UMC in Alexandria. The district had an European Retreat and Study, which was well attended and quite interesting. They had a Russian student from Centenary College to talk to them about life in Russia. Scott Sontag, a Music Professor from Louisiana College played the piano during the hour and sang European songs. The lunch was European and Margie closed with highlights from the European Study book.

She said the attendance at Conference School of Mission was good, and the district's display was "Living In A Multi-Cultural Society." They also furnished punch, cookies and games for the Fun Night, and led the Friday morning Praise on the theme of John Wesley. The Mini-School was held at Horseshoe UMC in Alexandria where Rev. Steve Caraway taught "China," and Jude Geiger taught "Living In A Multi-Cultural Society." The ladies at Horseshoe served lunch.

The District Annual Meeting will be held at Trinity UMC, October 26 and LELT will be held November 9 at First UMC Pineville. The Executive Committee meeting will be held after LELT and the ladies from First Church will serve lunch.

Ruston District: Maxie Garrett reported that since her short report at Mid-Year Ruston's district has been busily engaged in doing the Lord's work in mission. She said many of the ladies participated in the Mission Studies as evidenced by seventeen units receiving the Certificate of Excellence of Studies for 1996. She taught the United Nations Study to five units and Elouise Sanders and Jean Rockhold taught the other studies several times. Ten Ruston members attended the School of Christian Mission in July. Mini-school was well attended and the studies were taught by Ruston District members.

Maxie said the Spring meeting was held March 3 at Farmerville with Carolyn Colvin, Shreveport District, as the guest speaker. The District Superintendent, Jimmy Pyles and his wife attended the meeting. The Fall meeting will be held in Haynesville, October 6 with Rev. Terilynn Russ, pastor of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Calhoun, as the guest speaker. Other meetings which provided spiritual enrichment and fellowship were the: District Retreat at Caney Conference Center, Mission Team meeting in April, and UMW Sunday activities. All units participated and sent in reports of UMW Sunday Activities. Rev. Judith Bazer was the Retreat leader.

Information received from the Conference Officers and the District Officers was disseminated to the membership by THE WORD, The Ruston District newsletter. The district

was asked to provide food for two events: Ruston District Laity Banquet and the farewell reception honoring Bishop and Mrs. Oden. Four members from Ruston District also assisted as servers with the Shreveport District members.

They are excited about the upcoming events: Annual Fall Meeting, October 6; DELT, October 19; Mission Education Event, October 20-22; and LEIT November 3. The New Structure will be implemented in 1997. The new officers will be installed; retiring officers will be honored and deceased members will be remembered at the Fall meeting.

By virtue of her office as president, She was a delegate to Annual Conference in June, attended Council on Ministries from Ruston District and the District Nomination Committee.

Lake Charles District: Nell Hayes reported that "Pass It On" will continue to be the theme of the Lake Charles District. Their Quiet Day was not quiet with eighty-five ladies on board two chartered buses visiting three locations for on-site mission study. More than one hundred signed up for the mission excursion, but they could only take so many. They went to MacDonell's United Methodist Children's Services, Dulac Community Center and Sager-Brown.

Their reading program is doing very well with nineteen churches responding with 104 readers. Seventeen units received the Excellence of Studies, and twenty-three units received the 5 Star Giving recognition. The Mission Candle giving has increased to \$1,500; several churches resumed their pledging, after a brief respite. The Mini-school was held in Ragley with over sixty in attendance. The leaders were Rev. Steve Caraway--China; Ann McMuery--Multi-Cultural Society, and Rev. Faye Barrhartung--John Wesley.

Nell said the district is trying something different for the Fall Meeting and LEIT. They will combine the two district events at Henning UMC on October 26. The meeting is scheduled to begin with registration at 9:00 and end by 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided by the church. "Mission in Motion" is what we are about, said Nell, "Our gifts have been rekindled, we are passing them on globally...here...there and everywhere."

1996 School of Mission: Joyce Hazel, Dean, reported that 211 participants examined the historic roots of Methodism while studying the life and ministry of John Wesley in the context of his time, at the School of Christian Mission at Centenary College, July 25-28, 1996. Exploring Wesley's understanding of the Christian faith and life hopefully resulted in a renewed vision of our mission in living out our faith. Some reflected on the life and witness of Christians, the nature of the church in the fast-changing societies of China and Hong Kong. Others learned about the multicultural world in which we live, and identified ways to deal with the complex realities of an ever more diverse and often disturbing society. The study leaders very capably led the members of the classes in discussions, activities, reflection, and prayer.

Having children participate in the school for the first time was mutually rewarding. The twenty-four children delighted all in attendance during the fellowship and, worship services and they reached out to the less fortunate at two mission sites in the city.

Many of the participants expressed appreciation for having both classes in the same building and for the shuttle service that was provided. The offering of \$707.07 was given undesignated to World Thank Offering.

Joyce expressed her personal appreciation to each of us for all of the hard work rendered during the recent school. She said the members of the Louisiana Conference UMW Executive Committee, are a team in every sense of the word, and prays God's richest blessings on each of us.

Harriette Elrod, Chairperson, Committee on Membership received a phone call just before leaving home to go to the Annual Meeting in Monroe. The caller seemed to be confused about a certificate. She asked that the district presidents would help the district membership chairperson to explain the various certificates and awards to their districts. There are two new certificates that have come out with the New Program for Membership: "The Woman in Missions" (there is a checklist of achievement, that must be filled out on the person nominated); and the "Achievement Award In Membership" (there is a checklist for this award and every item must be completed before a certificate can be awarded)

Harriette also said that the Scrapbooks have increased to nine, one for each district. The scrapbooks will be taken by each district after the Annual Meeting to be added to and begin anew for the next year. Harriette is simply thrilled with the help that she is getting from the districts on this project.

Mary Quinones indicated that she will give the Mission Candle Book to Evelyn Evans, the new treasurer. She said that the Mission Candle should be sent to New Orleans, for the 1997 Annual Meeting. She also said she will get the ribbons from Lois Heath, whose office of Financial Interpretation will end in December, and give them to Evelyn.

Pat announced that Nancy Carruth, Editor, could not be with us tonight because of a meeting in Atlanta. Nancy asks that all articles for the newsletter be in by December 15. The evaluation packets will be given out at the post meeting on Saturday.

1997 West Gulf Regional School: The West Gulf Regional School will be held at McMurry University in Abilene, Texas, June 20-24. Gwen Streams, LA representative, will arrive later tonight.

1996 DELT: DELT will be held at Newman United Methodist Church. Lois will arrive early Saturday morning with more details.

Mid-Year Executive Meeting: Mid-Year is scheduled for February 14-15 at the Louisiana Conference Center.

Retiring Officers:

Mary Quinones, Treasurer, said as she prepared to come to this meeting, it was with a mixture of joy and sorrow, because First Church in Monroe was where she was first installed as a Conference Officer in 1990. She said that Annual Meetings have always been a high point for her since the first one she attended at First Church in Baton Rouge.

When she was first asked to serve as president of her local unit, her mother was still living. I asked my mother whether I should accept that responsibility. My mother replied: "Well honey, you don't have to serve if you don't want to; but maybe God is saying something to you; and maybe you should listen." That was the best advice Mary has ever received. Her mother died in 1982.

Mary said that God may close a door, but he will always open another window of opportunity, if you are open to His leading. She also thanked us for helping her to grow, and providing that supportive community we are all committed to. As she closed, she asked God's richest blessings on the executive team as we work for His mission through United Methodist Women.

Emily McCoy, Acadiana District President, said this is a special time. She would like to name it a time to go out and pass it on, and not retirement. She rejoices with all in the wonderful fellowship, growth and development found in United Methodist Women. One thing for sure: retirement is not a destination; it is just a beginning. She thanked us for the supportive community we provided for her during her years as president, and she will continue to be an active force in United Methodist Women.

Lou Medlock, Coordinator of Supportive Community, said she wanted us to know that after years of resisting taking an office on the conference level, she is happy she did. Her experiences working on the conference level has been very rewarding even though some of the district officers did not fully cooperate with her.

Jan Randolph, Chairperson, Nominating Committee, said this has been a very special time in her life. She has grown spiritually, improved her leadership skills, social skills and has enjoyed the fellowship with United Methodist Women. She will always treasure her time with UMW.

Gail Epperson, North Shore District President, has enjoyed her life with United Methodist Women. She has been president of two large state organizations and those experiences can't measure up to what she has gained as a UMW district president. She shared a poem titled "A Leader's Prayer," that she has tried to live by since her early twenties in carrying out her leadership responsibilities.

Discussion

Pat shared that Doris Brown's mother passed rather suddenly three week ago. A gift to Mission has been sent in her memory.

The Mission Education Event will take place at Dulac, October 20-22, 1996. The district presidents who have not done so, were to send in their applications. Conference Officers on the program will present their report in a new format. Pat asked Annette to think of some way that this could be done. Annette came up with a vessel and script which included a scripture for each officer. As the office is announced, each officer will respond using the scripture and then place the vessel at the base of the fountain.

On Saturday morning Bishop Dan Solomon and his wife will be here.

Hilda Sills asked about the cutoff date for outgoing officers. Pat said that all outgoing officers will continue their responsibilities until December 31, 1996.

After a few announcements concerning activities of the Annual Meeting, we were led in prayer by Pat; and the meeting was adjourned.

Examiners: Maxie Garrett
Lou Medlock

Fannie Reddix, Secretary

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
POST-EXECUTIVE MEETING
September 21, 1996

The meeting was called to order by Pat Cobb, President after a delicious lunch was served in the "Hiding Place" of First Church in Monroe, LA. Pat distributed the district presidents' report forms, a folder with the new officers and important dates, and a list of the names and addresses of the 1996 Annual Meeting Local Task Force.

Lois Heath distributed a flyer with directions to Newman United Methodist Church where DELT will be held on October 19, 1996.

The new executive team officers were welcomed: Betty Tripp, Gail Epperson, Evelyn Evans, Kathleen Phillips, Jeroldean Dommert, Jane Eubanks and Norma Winegeart.

Conference Retreat: Doris Brown, Chairperson gave a copy of the tentative report to me at the post executive meeting. The Retreat will be held February 28 - March 2, 1997 at the Conference Center. The theme is "Christian Women: Living as Sisters"; the scripture is Ruth 1:16-18. Doris said that it is hoped that the theme will bring a spirit of fun and fellowship. Reflections will be on the differences and similarities of Christian women and how they can facilitate our development of a closer relationship and an understanding of Biblical women in the Bible. It is also hoped that old friendships will be renewed and new ones developed. The assignments are as follows: Retreat Leader and Communion Celebrant: Leslie Akin; Assistants - Communion Celebrants: Juliette Deschner and Marie Williams; Music Director/Soloist/Pianist: Yvette Pearson and Larry Weatherton, Jr.; Retreat Nurse: Lana Nathan; Personal Meditation/Table Graces/ Reading and Program Resources: Gwen Streams; Evaluation Forms: Hilda Sims; Registration: Betty Pope; Printed Programs/Advertisement: Doris Brown; Conference Center Contact: Harry Gardener and Group Leaders (Facilitators) Two from each District. Final details will be forthcoming in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned after a very moving prayer by Annette Fortuna.

Examiners:	Maxie Garrett	Fannie P. Reddix, Secretary
	Lou Medlock	

JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

**Monroe, Louisiana
September 20 - 21, 1996**

The Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women opened Friday, September 20, 1996 at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of First United Methodist Church, Monroe, LA. After a beautiful Prelude on the pipe organ by Hunt Neely and invocation by Rev. Larry Stafford, President, Pat Cobb convened the meeting and presided. The president led the assembly in affirming the purpose of United Methodist Women read in unison.

WELCOME - Welcomes were extended by Dr. Phil Woodland, Monroe District Superintendent; Rev. Larry Stafford, Pastor of First United Methodist Church; Christine Coleman, Monroe District UMW President; and Linda Hursey, President, First UMC United Methodist Women.

PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAM - Annette Fortuna, Chairperson and Lorraine Sparks, Co-Chairperson, presented the program. The Annual Meeting Theme was "**Come to the Fountain**," the scripture was **Psalm 36:9**, and the theme hymn was number 400 "**Come Thou Fount**."

LIGHTING OF THE MISSION CANDLE -As Vera Bullock, former President of the Monroe District UMW, lit the candle, she said "Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; we can feel his mighty power and His grace; so let us come to the fountain." "For our God is the fountain of life, our light is from God's light. As we light the Annual Mission Candle, we call to mind past, present, and future gifts of God, abundantly given. The Monetary gifts you have given will support Undesignated Mission through the Women's Division in honor of those person and groups whose names are inscribed in Our Mission Candle Book. In 1996, it cost \$38.55 per minute to support this missions. Our 1996 Mission Candle will burn 4 hours, and 39 minutes, representing total gifts of \$767.11. When the time has expired, we will extinguish the flame. Our support through the Mission Candle will have ended, but we will continue to unite as women who "**COME TO THE FOUNTAIN**."

OPENING WORSHIP -After singing the opening hymn, "Come Thou Fount," Rev. Letitia Smith gave the opening Meditation. It was based upon the scripture - Isaiah 55:1. Special Music rendered by Betty Swanson, ended this portion of the program.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Pat announced that she had received a letter of congratulations and best wishes for a successful meeting from Jerry Williams, the new President of the South Central Jurisdiction. Kathleen Conrad was recently elected as an additional member to South Central Jurisdiction Core

Planning Team and Doris Brown was elected as a Women's Division Director. Special recognition will be given to the two of them on tomorrow. She also announced that she had been requested to ask the districts to leave their Mission Candle Sheet in the Mission Candle Book until after the end of the Annual Meeting.

Promise Award - The first Promise Award was awarded this year. The Promise Award was given to St. Luke-Simpson UMC in the Lake Charles District. The award consisted of a framed certificate and \$100 Special Recognition Gift to Mission in honor of the winner. There were two honorable mentions: Neely UMC in the Baton Rouge District and Munholland UMC in the New Orleans District. They received framed certificates of honor.

MISSION TEAM REPORT - After Music rendered by Betty Swanson, the Mission Team Report was given. The format was changed to present a scenario of our office responsibilities in an exciting manner! (The President, Pat Cobb, is the narrator.)

As we view the Team Report, we hear. . .

PAT COBB, PRESIDENT, - "Today we come to the fountain. What image does a fountain bring to mind? What do you expect to receive? It is our hope that you will be filled with the spirit and with knowledge during our time together, and that you will take both back home and share them liberally with your local members."

"This has been a very productive year for Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women. You will notice in the program book that there is a "team report." We believe you will find this format interesting and informative."

"Romans 10:15 says: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news of Christ." "As I place this beautiful pitcher at the base of the fountain, I am reminded of the opportunity that is mine as Conference President to encourage all of you to be the feet of Christ and share His message of Love."

"Each year, our Conference adopts goals to help focus on some specific aspects of our PURPOSE. **Vice President, Hilda Sills**, chairs the Program Committee and will present the 1997 goals at this time."

HILDA presented the 1997 Goals as follows:

1. By 1997 we will work toward implementing the new structure as given by the Women's Division.
2. In 1997 we will continue to include children ages 7-12 in our Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission.
3. We will work toward increasing certification by the year of 2000 in the areas of:

Reading Program

Excellence of Studies

Charter For Racial Justice Policy (Promise Award) and
Membership (Women in Mission Award)

4. We will meet our Conference Pledge to Mission by an increase of 25% annually (to the year 2000)

a. We will promote Five Star Certification which includes:

1. Pledge to Mission
2. Special Mission Recognition
3. Gifts to Mission (Cards)
4. Gifts in Memory
5. World Thank Offering

b. We will encourage individuals to participate in Five Star Giving.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HILDA D. SILLS THAT THESE GOALS BE ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE. SECONDED AND CARRIED.

HILDA holds a watering can as she says, "1 Corinthians 3:6 says: 'Paul planted, Apollos watered, but God is the one who caused the growth.' As I place the watering can at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as Conference Vice-President I help to plan programs that will water each person's spirit, and God will cause growth to occur in all who participate in these programs."

As Pat Continues..."Secretary, **Fannie P. Reddix** (with sponge), has a lot of paper work, in addition to taking minutes of all meetings, and preparing the directory for publication, she assembles the mailing list for all local officers. This probable the most difficult aspect of her job. Those of you who are local presidents or secretaries can help immensely if you get your slate to the District Secretary promptly, who, in turn, will forward it to Fannie. She sometimes has to "squeeze" it from those designated to send them in."

FANNIE holds the sponge as she says, "James 1:22 says: 'But prove yourselves to be doers of the word, and not merely hearers only.' As I place this large sponge at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as Conference Secretary I must absorb everything that takes place so that we will have an accurate record of all the activities and events that go on in our Conference, as we strive to be 'doers of the word.'"

Pat says...."Where would we be without our Treasurer, **MARY QUINONES?** Since our main purpose is supporting mission, keeping accurate records of our finances is essential. Mary has worked tirelessly recording your mission dollars. Mary, please give us an update on our giving."

The Treasurer's Report is found on page 9 of the Annual Meeting Program Book.

The Treasurer's Report is found on page 9 of the Annual Meeting Program Book.
MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY QUINONES THAT THE 1997 PROPOSED BUDGET BE ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE. SECONDED AND CARRIED.

MARY with a dipper in her hand, says..."11 Corinthians 9:6 says: 'The one who sows bountifully shall reap bountifully.' As I place this dipper at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Treasurer I must continually challenge you to dip into the well of your resources so that we may continue to grow in our giving to missions.

Pat Continues..."The position of Financial Interpreter has been held by **LOIS HEATH**. She has helped with interpretation and education of members as to how and why we give. She has also been responsible for the design and production of the Mission Ribbons for the past two years. Lois we have quite a history, don't we?"

LOIS holds the pitcher with a basin, she says..."In John 13:15, Jesus says this to his disciples after he washes their feet: 'For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.' As I place the pitcher and basin, a symbol of servanthood, at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Secretary of Financial Promotion I must keep you informed and help educate you on the ways that your mission dollars are serving others.

And Pat continues..."You have heard about the new structure of United Methodist Women, which goes into effect in 1997 at the Conference and District levels. It will be implemented at the local level the following year. The names and duties of the Mission Coordinators have been changed somewhat; you will note the new names in the officer list on page 10 of your program book. More information will be available when the new Handbooks are available at the end of this year."

The duties of Supportive Community will be realigned within the other coordinators. **LOU MEDLOCK** has done a great job in that office and has some presentations to make:

Certificates of Recognition were presented to the following units: Alexandria District - Wilton UMC, Fellowship UMC, Newman UMC and Wesley Bonneville UMC. Baton Rouge District - Wesley UMC. Lake Charles District - St. Luke Simpson UMC, Wesley UMC, Sulphur UMC. New Orleans District - Mount Zion UMC and Kenner First UMC.

LOU holding a glass with two straws, says: "Galatians 6:2 says, 'Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ.' As I place this glass with two straws in it at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Coordinator for Supportive Community I am given the responsibility of communicating to you the importance of creating an accepting atmosphere in your units so that each woman will feel that someone really does want to help her bear her burdens in her time of need.

...."The new name for Christian Personhood will be **Spiritual Growth**. How many of you

remember that is what it used to be? **ANNETTE FORTUNA** has served in this office this past year, in addition to little time devoted to planning this meeting. Annette, we will hear from you now."

ANNETTE holding a tea kettle says.. "But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way unto Him who is the head, Christ Jesus." "As I place this tea kettle at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as the Conference Coordinator for Christian Personhood, I need to always be encouraging our units to participate in events at the local level, at the district level, and at the conference level that will nourish them spiritually and enable them to continually be "growing up" in their faith and moving closer to the Lord Jesus Christ."

.... "I notice that **MURIEL MILLER**, the Mission Coordinator for Social Involvement looks a little different today.

MURIEL is dressed to promote VOTING: a SKIT ENCOURAGING ALL TO EXERCISE OUR RIGHT TO VOTE. After the skit, Pat asked, "Did you catch that the name has been changed to **Social Action**?"

MURIEL holding her "Voting cup" says, "Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. As I place this "voting Cup" at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Coordinator for Social Involvement I have a responsibility to urge you to exercise your right to vote and have a voice in your governing authorities."

.... "The focus of the Global Concerns Coordinator, **MARIE YOUNG**, has been the mission studies. The new name for this office is **Education and Interpretation**. Marie, tell us more.

MARIE holding her "World Mug" says, "Matthew 28:19 says, 'Go ye into all the nations.' "As I place this globe drinking vessel at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Coordinator for Global Concerns I must continually keep you informed of what we are doing throughout the world through missions, and also challenge every unit in our state to participate in our mission study on China, Hong Kong in the coming year."

.... "We were overjoyed with the participation of the children in our Mission School this year. Thanks to Cheryl Gillespie for overseeing the children's program; and of course, a big thank you to our **Dean, JOYCE HAZEL** and her assistant, Harriette Elrod for a very successful school."

.... "**HARRIETTE ELROD** served as Assistant Dean this year and will be Dean next year. In addition she also wears the hat of Membership Chairperson. What's new in your area Harriette?"

HARRIETTE led us in exercises to get us ready for the MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN 1996-2000. All UMW members were requested to stand up. As they stretched, circled their

arms, twisted at the waist, walked in place and reached toward all five stars...Five Star Giving...Five Star Living!! And finally, with the hand over the heart, they responded, "YES, COUNT ME IN!" "I WILL PASS IT ON!!" At the end, all clapped and said thank you to the United Methodist Women of First Church for the wonderful hospitality.

Harriette presented the first "Woman in Missions" Award to Carolyn Colvin, President of the Shreveport District United Methodist Women. She said that there is another award, the "Achievement Award In Membership." There is a checklist of activities that must be completed for each award. There was an increase in the membership scrapbooks, so that we now have one for each district. All districts participate in preparing them.

HARRIETTE, holding up a large water vessel says, "Galatians 3:28 says: 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.' "As I place this large water vessel at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as the Chairperson of the Committee on Membership, United Methodist Women is a large vessel that needs to continually seek ways to involve women of all ages and all backgrounds. There is a place for every woman in UMW!"

...And Pat Continues..."How could United Methodist Women function without all the wonderful Program Resources. **GWEN STREAMS** has been responsible for this area and will tell us a little about her duties."

GWEN, holding a large drinking vessel, says, 'Psalms 119:15 says: "I will meditate on Thy precepts, and regard Thy ways.' As your Conference Secretary of Program Resources, I sometimes get really "thirsty" lugging all those books and materials from place to place and setting up the resource room. As I place this drinking vessel at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as you enter my office, I have the opportunity to offer you new books and materials that will inspire you and make it possible for you to meditate on God's precepts and learn more about God's ways."

...."You can see that we have a lot going on, but it is essential that we get the word out. **RITA PARHAM** has served very effectively as **SECRETARY OF PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**. She has some interesting information for us.

RITA enters with the news, and we hear . **Extra! Extra!** Read It One and All! She has billboards, flash cards, etc. She shares some of the highlights of this year's activities. "Louisiana...

where mission is...The United Methodist Women of Louisiana get mission to work in many unique and special ways and we have a story to tell. Louisiana is perfectly shaped to kick the mission story right out front. The conference is divided into nine district, each offering its own unique mission leather to the boot."

"Forming the top of the boot is Shreveport, Ruston and Monroe, with the beauty of natural areas and gardens, and **NEWS!** The Perfect support for the upper leg. Alexandria, a crossroads,

blending north and south, the perfect location for our Conference Center; that is **NEWS!** It provides good ankle support. Lake Charles and Acadiana--Cajun Country, where southwest and south meet, and **NEWS!** They provide the best heel support and provide a strong "soulful" sole for the boot. Baton Rouge--Plantation Country, along the great Mississippi River, holds the history of eras gone by and is home of the state capitol, our new Bishop Dan E. Solomon and First Lady, Joy. And **NEWS!** The best upper support that a mission worker could ever have. North Shore and New Orleans, where festivals never end with old world charm, Vieux Carre and Jazz; covering and supporting the toes, giving them lots of room to stretch and grow. They have a **story** that never ends. This **boot** is **made** for **mission** and that's what we do in Louisiana Conference; in pictures, words and mostly action. Louisiana is home to nationally registered mission projects: St. Marks Community Center - New Orleans; Dulac Cooperative Ministry - Dulac; MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services - Houma; Sager-Brown Enabling Ministries - Baldwin. This year Sager-Brown made news again with the U. M. C. O. R. International Depot, a gateway to mission world wide."

"Louisiana has a jurisdictional officer, Travel Scholarship Winners, a Women's Division Director and Alternates too! We have pictures to prove it. Our District Leadership teams are organizing and planning the first steps necessary to move into the 21st Century. Soon Louisiana Conference UMW will be found on the World Wide Webb."

RITA, holding her "to go" cup, says; 1 John 1:3 says: 'We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us.' "As I place this "to go" cup at the base of the fountain, I am reminded that as your Conference Secretary of Publicity/Public Relations I have to stay "on the go" so that everyone will know what I have seen and what I have heard at all of our conference events and help everyone realize what a truly wonderful fellowship we enjoy through United Methodist Women."

...."Rita mentioned the Conference Center just outside Alexandria. We are eagerly awaiting its opening. As is the case with many construction projects, the completion has been delayed. We were hopeful that **District Elected Leader's Training** would be held there October 19, but that will not be possible. However, we are grateful to the ladies at Newman Church in Alexandria for hosting us for that event. Those involved in this learning experience will get detailed information from your District Presidents following this meeting. At the present time, a December dedication of the Conference Center is anticipated. Mr. Harry Gardner, Director of the Conference Center, assures me that they will have all the kinks worked out by the time we have our Retreat there at the end of February next year. One of the highlights of this past year for me was attending the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. It was exciting to be part of the election process for the Episcopacy and to meet with our new Bishop after the appointments were announced. As I mentioned earlier, Bishop Solomon and his wife, Joy, will be with us tomorrow. I wish to thank those of you who were part of the voting delegates at Annual Conference last year for giving me this opportunity."

... "The Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women participated in a jurisdictional-sponsored event called "Education for Mission" at Camp Aldersgate in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Six of us were involved in some hands-on mission work at that facility which included painting, scrubbing, office work and marking items for a bazaar. We witnessed first hand what our mission dollars can do. As an outgrowth of that experience, we will be going to Dulac Community Center next month, October 20-22 to perform similar tasks and to see first-hand what goes on in the daily operation of this unique center. Three participants from each district are to be included in the pattern; we have an opening for one or two additional persons." Persons interested in this meaningful project, were asked to see Pat after this meeting.

...."The strength of this organization relies heavily on the work done by the Committee on Nominations. **JAN RANDOLPH**, has chaired this Committee for two years, as directed by Women's Division. She and her committee have worked to insure that we have a well-rounded slate. Jan, please give us your report now."

JAN submits the following report on Nominations: re-elect for two year terms: Hilda Sills - Vice President; Muriel Miller - Coordinator for Social Action; Coordinator for Spiritual Growth - Annette Fortuna; and nominated for a two year term: Norma Winegeart - Chairperson, Committee on Nominations; Evelyn Evans - Treasurer; and nominated for four year terms: Betty Tripp and Gail Epperson - Committee on Nominations.

With no additional nominations from the floor, the delegates accepted the recommendations from the Nominating Committee, and all of the officers were elected.

...."You have heard from your Mission Team. As Harriette explained, Membership is a goal of Women's Division through the year 2002. What will it take to implement this goal? We need to examine the phrase, 'but we've always done it that way.' The reasons and ways of doing things twenty, thirty or forty years ago will not work today. The buzz word for the nineties is 'paradigm.' It simply means a new way of looking at things."

Pat said that she doesn't do much baking these days, since the children have left home, but one day recently she decided to make biscuits. She had always proceeded in much the same way her grandmother and mother had done--mixing ingredients, kneading on a floured board, rolling the dough, and cutting with a biscuit cutter, then taking the remaining "scraps" and attempting to mold them together to be similar to those that had been cut. This latter step was never completely satisfactory to her. On that particular day, she asked herself why round biscuits were necessary. So she decided to roll out the dough in more or less of a rectangle and cut the biscuits in "squares." They tasted just as good, and she didn't have to worry about those crumbs... and it was quicker!"Think about the way you recruit new members. You might want to make some "square biscuits."

...."We come to the fountain. As we are filled, we are mandated to have this relationship with Jesus flow out from us." Oswald Chambers in his book, **My Utmost for His Highest**, says, *'Stay at the Source, closely guarding your faith in Jesus Christ and your relationship to Him, and there will be a steady flow into the lives of others with no dryness or deadness whatsoever.'*"

Pat said it is her prayer that each of us will have blessings poured out on us, so that we may be a blessing to others.

After the Psalter 771, a few minutes were allowed for the break.

We resumed the meeting with UMW sings, led by Betty Swanson.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED Joyce Reed gave the report because Betty Cummins the president, could not be present.

"The most outstanding event of the past twelve months in Church Women United was Common Council, the conference of state presidents, denominational representatives, national officers and staff that sets policy on the national level. The meeting--the first in four years--at Stevens Institute in Hoboken, New Jersey, met June 27 - July 1, 1996 was marked by prayer, prayerful and practical consideration of the movement."

She said it was such a delight to meet so many women from the many places and of such diverse ethnicity and religious traditions, and so strong in Christian commitment sharing the Common Goals of Church Women United. The Common Goals are:

We intend to grow in our faith and to extend our vision of what it means to be Chri

stian women of faith today.

We intend to develop visible ecumenical community.

We intend to work for a just, peaceful, and caring society.

We intend to use the resources God has entrusted to us responsibly and creatively--our intelligence, our time, our energy, our money--as we carry out the mission of Christ through Church Women United.

The Spring Assembly will be held in Shreveport, March 14-15, 1997. This is as good a time as any to invite you all to join and become active members of CWU, because as you know you are already a member by being in United Methodist Women.

The continuing service to the women at St. Gabriel, the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women, saw us on July 12 take "ditty bags," health kits, to 739 residents--not quite the 830 we'd been told about, so we have a bit of a head start on 1997.

She said Church Women United is grateful for the strong support received from United Methodist Women, and ask that we continue and expand our interest. She ended the report with reference to a Poem, "The Offer" from the book **Wellsprings**, by Tony DeMello, a retreat director, she met many years ago.

REPORTS FROM LOUISIANA CONFERENCE MISSION PROJECTS

Dulac Community Center - Donna Kay Campbell, the new director, who hails from

Iowa, brought greetings from the Dulac Community Center. She said that she is a real full time commissioned Missionary. She is the first church and community worker missionary ever, to be appointed to a project in the state of Louisiana. This is a brand new thing for us, she said. There are four criteria for being a real missionary: 1. You have to be willing to go far away from home. (Iowa is 1100 miles from Louisiana). 2. You must fly over salt water. I did not fly over salt water, but there is salt water wherever I go. 3. You have to be willing to eat strange food. (They don't know what Etoouffee is back home.) 4. You have to be willing to speak more than one language.

Donna says they are looking forward to the Mission Education Event next month; and thanks us for all of our efforts and the support we have continued to give to Dulac Community Center.

MacDonell United Methodist Children's Service - Gerald J. Bridges, Director brought greetings from MacDonell. He has seen a lot of changes in the MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services over the past 28 years. One of the things they teach at MacDonell is responsibility. Over the past thirty years or so, the word responsibility has just about disappeared. It seems to have been replaced with the word rights. He says he has no objections to rights but he feels that you need to be responsible first. They get children who come from various backgrounds: very disturbed and some come from dysfunctional families. He said that they have a philosophy that they teach the children--that they are responsible for themselves. He said they don't dwell on the misfortunes the children have had, they provide Christian love and try to show them how to be responsible for themselves.

The children come to them from all walks of life; and from all over the state. They are having some success with the children in helping to turn their lives around. The greeting cards project has been a success. Gerald expressed his sincere appreciation to us for being supportive of MacDonell United Methodist Children's Service and inviting him to the Annual Meeting.

Sager-Brown Enabling Ministries - Sarah Schoeffler, Director could not attend this meeting because of another responsibility, however, Emily McCoy, a board member brought greetings to us.

"Sager-Brown began in 1867, serving as an orphanage for African-American children. In 1978 it closed its doors after operating for many years as the Sager-Brown Orphanage and Godman School, which was named after the owners, Mrs. Sager and Mrs. Brown. In the wake of Hurricane Andrew in 1992, Sager-Brown rose again as the Sager-Brown Center providing disaster relief and a promise of a brighter future for many of the area's disadvantaged residents. Sager-Brown Center for Enabling Ministries is becoming a major contributor to this area of Louisiana through its nurturing efforts. Some of the programs include: Adult Education; Truck Driving Preparation Course; After School Resource Program; Food for Seniors; Girls' Club and Girl Scouts; Parenting; Teenage Pregnancy Task Force, and Farming. Sager-Brown has facilities to completely support Volunteers-in-Mission Teams."

"Sager-Brown is Global. The newly constructed and dedicated U. M. C. O R. Depot

Facility which was mentioned by Rita Parham in her report, located on the Sager-Brown grounds will respond to disaster situations, developmental needs and on-going projects WORLD-WIDE!" Emily brought brochures and invited all to come, participate and assist in some of the on-going ministries at Sager-Brown in Baldwin, LA.

St. Mark's Community Center Gregor Dike, Director, expressed his appreciation to us for inviting him to attend the Annual Meeting and to share some of his experiences at St. Mark's. Greg said that St. Mark's is actively involved in several projects to benefit the children. He feels that hope should be provided for the children who feel so hopeless. ...A tools lending library could enable others to do something for themselves. The two day care centers, provide an opportunity for the young ladies to continue their education and still have daily responsibility for the nurturing of their children. ...Some of the projects in action, and or just a vision, include: the Jazz Project; Youth Run Restaurant; Teens with a Dream and the Sewing Center. An invitation is extended to all to come, visit and continue the support United Methodist Women has always given. ...Greg encouraged the units of UMW to take a look at all of the enabling institutional ministries to see how we can provide the needed assistance. He also brought brochures about St Mark's.

RETIRING OFFICERS - Mary Lou Blakeman. Mary said, "this afternoon, we will recognize those women who have given tirelessly of their time, talents and resources as elected leaders of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women. Some of these women have completed their conference tenure and others are moving on to other positions of leadership due to the position being eliminated. Regardless of the reason, it is our distinct honor to recognize these women for their diligent work."

The following officers retired: Mary Quinones - Treasurer; Lou Medlock - Supportive Community; Elouise Sanders - Nominating Committee; Lois Heath - Financial Interpretation and Jan Randolph -Chairperson, Nominating Committee.

"As you stand here in the presence of your peers, we recognize your tireless service to God through United Methodist Women. In a time when volunteer service is becoming less a part of our everyday lives, you are to be commended for giving of your self on behalf of others."

"What are you retiring from? Missed meals with your family, take-out meals that gave you indigestion, missed days at work, travel in many various forms: foot, car, bus, train and plane. Nights in hotels, motels and dormitories. Hopefully, you will have had some wonderful experiences that you will hold close to you as cherished memories. Friends from around the world, our country, jurisdiction and conference. Personal gains and personal sacrifices which only you know."

"But there is more, so much more." Mary recalled a story about Sarah, the wife of Abram. ...What was it like for Sarah to go so far away on the word of an unknown god? ...To leave her home, friends and all that she was used to, in order to follow her husband? "Surely, Sarah came to the Fountain to draw strength for the journey but the story is silent on her

sacrifices and her voice is silent and no one was there to speak for her."

"...You, retiring from your conference leadership positions, have been the voice of those who have no voice. ...Before you is a small token. This Special Mission Recognition Pin represents all of those countless hours that you have worked on behalf of the poor and it represents a gift to mission in your honor so that your voice will continue to sound in a world which seeks to silence descent."

..."Let us pause for a moment of silent reflection as all who so desire can renew the commitment to service and giving, drawing strength from the Fountain that is in Jesus." (Mary ended with the prayer--hymn 150, stanzas 1 and 4.)

Announcements: Pat announced that we would reconvene at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.

After UMW Sings, which was led by Betty Swanson, the Bell Choir performed. Music was provided by the Combined Bell Choir made up of representatives from Monroe -- First UMC and St. Paul's UMC and West Monroe -- First UMC.

Following the Call to Worship, UMW sings, Rev. Terry Love gave the Evening Prayer.

Introduction of Speaker - Pat introduced the speaker, Twick Morrison. "Twick lives in Vicksburg, MS and has two sons and seven grandchildren. She has worked actively on all levels in the Methodist Church, and has been a delegate for the last five General and Jurisdictional Conferences. She is also active in community affairs and has been a contributor to several church publications. She has traveled extensively abroad on mission trips. In Her ecumenical work, she served three years on the National Advisory Committee for Church World Service and traveled to Cambodia and Vietnam to help negotiate the release of Amerasian children. She is the immediate retired Director of Women's Division, after serving for two quadrennials. She is also the Conference Lay Leader of the Mississippi Conference."

While attending a Seminar given by the Women's Division at SeaShore Assembly in Biloxi, MS many years ago, Pat said she became a friend of Twick Morrison, and their paths have crossed many times since. Pat said that following the Special Music by Betty Swanson, you will hear the speaker and you will be just as enamored with her as she is.

SPEAKER - Twick Morrison said that her cup is overflowing with what we have experienced today. She said she helped to formulate the development of the Membership Campaign for United Methodist Women that will be used until the year 2002. As she began tonight's message, she said ...So now let us "Come to the Fountain" together. The fountain of the living water. And then she prayed that God's words would pour through her words. She said her message would be based on John 4th chapter and Psalm 42.

..."As a deer pants, after the cool water of a running brook. My soul being longs for you, O God." ... "My soul being, thirsts for you, O God, the living God." "In a beautifully poetic way, the Psalmist expresses the universal thirst for God, the innate longing in each of us to find God. We express that thirst in our purpose as United Methodist Women, when we say we are a community of women whose purpose is to know God. I believe that this yearning--this thirsting--is a gift of God. A gift that God gives us at the point of our creation. I believe at the same time, that the quenching of our thirst is a gift from God." "Just as our spiritual lives alternate between searching and finding and praising, we hear the same lament from the psalmist."

"After the magnificent expression of the thirsting, the searching, the psalmist continues with a question. When shall I come and behold the face of God? And the psalmist in his struggle begins to find the answers as he lives the questions. Hope is God; for I shall again praise him. "He lives, how I know he lives, He lives within my heart. ...God moves in unacceptable persons, and in unacceptable places. God lives in the hearts of third world faces. I see the face of God in Jesus Christ--the Samaritan woman--Jesus is passing through hostile territory some of the time. In Jesus' time the Jews look down on the Samaritans. Jewish men in that time did not speak to women in public. If you know the gift of God--He would quench your thirst with the living water. "I stood in a prayer circle on a stony beach by the Gulf of La Gonare in Haiti--United Methodists from the United States and teenage Methodist youth from inner city congregations in Port Au Prince. If anyone had reason to be disquieted in soul, dissatisfied with one's circumstance in life, surely these impoverished young people had reason. Instead, they were anticipating their holiday to go to the Island of La Gonare to minister to the youth and elderly. All 25 of us rode in pickup trucks together. We could not communicate until we began to sing hymns together. When we got to the beach with youth bouncing from trucks, Bibles and bedrolls in hand--Youth who could speak English called for prayer circles. We sang, "He Lives." Then prayed in our language. I thanked God for what third world Christians have shared of their strong, sure experience of a living God. ...You ask me how I know he lives, He lives within our hearts!

This session ended with the singing of our theme song, Come Thou Fount" and a closing prayer by Rev. Terry Love.

Saturday Morning, 8:30 a.m.

After UMW Sings, and the morning prayer by Rev. Lou Ann Hollis, Twick Morrison and Harriette Elrod led the congregation in the "YES, COUNT ME IN!" Litany. (page 4 of program book)

PLEDGE SERVICE - Lois Heath, Secretary for Financial Interpretation led the Pledge Service.

CONFERENCE TREASURER: Our Conference Financial Goal for 1997, as adopted by this body is "To implement Five-Star mission 'Living' in order to accomplish Five-Star Mission 'Giving.' Each local unit makes a 1997 Undesignated Pledge to the district and each

district makes a 1997 Undesignated Pledge to the Louisiana Conference. The Conference Pledge you have approved represents the total of district pledges, other anticipated undesignated offerings, and a stepping out in faith for the ministry of Jesus Christ.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL INTERPRETATION: The program of the United Methodist Women is mission. This has been the emphasis since the beginning with the Missionary Society on down through the Women's Society of Christian Service and now the United Methodist Women. Today, let us think of our organization as a huge fountain flowing for missions.

CONFERENCE TREASURER: As we receive the Undesignated Pledge from each district, we ask that members from the district stand together. A member from your District will lead you as you respond.

ACADIANA DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **ACADIANA DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of children. As we hear the cries and see the tears, we pledge \$19,000.00.

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of medical work. For the skilled teams that provide service in remote areas to improve lives, we pledge \$27,000.00.

BATON ROUGE DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **BATON ROUGE DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of those in poverty. To help alleviate the root cause of hunger related diseases and homelessness, we pledge \$39,000.00.

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of clear water. To help provide safe water for drinking, bathing, animals, and farmlands, we pledge \$41,000.00.

MONROE DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **MONROE DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of the earth and all God's creations. We will educate for an awareness to learn to treat the earth kindly so that future generations may live, we pledge \$29,000.00.

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of peace. For the removal of strife and warfare so that all cultures and nations may dwell together in love and harmony, we pledge \$42,640.00.

NORTH SHORE DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **NORTH SHORE DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of education. To help build schools for children and youth in isolated rural settings and to support literacy programs for adults, we pledge \$21,500.00.

RUSTON DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **RUSTON DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of abused women. To help provide the needs of these women so their lives may be healthy and productive, we pledge \$30,000.00.

SHREVEPORT DISTRICT: (Standing and in Unison) As United Methodist Women in the **SHREVEPORT DISTRICT**, we come to the fountain in support of justice. By working together, may we make a difference and move the world closer to a just society. To help make this happen, we pledge \$47,000.00.

CONFERENCE TREASURER & ALL CONFERENCE OFFICERS FOR 1997: (Standing and in Unison) We have come to the fountain. This is a symbol of graces of Christian services that will always be found in the lives of those who work to fulfill the purpose of United Methodist Women and the multitude of projects we help fund through our pledges.

ALL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEMBERS: (Standing and Unison) We will continue to come to the fountain all through the year. Giving is a gift of God's grace, and as we accept that gift we are enabled to give more to be healers of the nations and to be in mission throughout the world. The **LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** pledge \$260,000.00. "For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light, we see light." **AMEN.**

Pat presented Special Mission Recognition Pins to: Nancy E. Wofford - Diaconal Minister; Karen A. Edenfield and Frances Johnson Hooton - Elders; Kathleen Conrad - South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Team; Doris Brown - Women's Division Director; Annette Fortuna, Annual Meeting Chairperson and Lorraine Sparks, Assistant Chairperson.

Pat recognized the presence of former officers, Janelle McCammon, Gloria Bennett, Minza Rabin, and Monroe District Superintendent Dr. Jimmie Pyles; and Bishop Dan E. Solomon and wife, Joy.

Registration: Charlotte Barron reported the following: 376 preregistered, 18 guest, and 42 late registrations, with 438 as the total in attendance.

OFFERING - The offering was received Undesignated in honor of United Methodist Women, who are experiencing adversity and are sick.

MORNING MESSAGE - The morning message was brought by Twick Morrison our Annual Meeting Speaker. Her message was based upon Hebrew 13:15-16, which says: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have." Our speaker, Twick Morrison, Asked the question, "do you know how to show God's love through a tube of lipstick?" She went on to tell a story about a little girl and God's love in a tube of lipstick. She said that "a National Division Missionary teacher at one of our community centers, discovered how to do it." There was one little girl who seemed to be unreachable. It was difficult for the little girl to adjust to her overwhelming surroundings. One day the little girl brought a tube of lipstick to class and asked the teacher to put it on. She obliged the little girl and wondered, what next? The little

requested that the teacher would kiss her. The teacher did and preceded to wipe off the lipstick. The little replied, Oh no! don't wipe it off, I want to show the whole that SOMEBODY LOVE ME! "In a remarkable way, this little girls summed up what the gospel is all about, JESUS IS SHOWING THE WHOLE WORLD THAT GOD LOVES THEM."

She went on to say that this summed up what we are about in UMW--doing good and sharing what we have--giving special attention to the call to minister to women children and youth. "Thank God. it is a part of our heritage to be God's Good News to Women, children and youth."

..."It was our foremothers in mission--who seeing the needs of children and youth following the Civil War, who started the Women's Home Mission Society and founded many of the institutions that are still today reaching out to children's needs." "It was from stories told by returning missionary wives--stories of the needs of, not just of women, but also of children and youth, that the Women's Foreign Missionary Societies were born."

..."During the last Quadrennium--as Women's Division adopted an updated statement on Ministries with Children and Youth, As UMW continued their Campaign For Children, as hundreds went to Washington, D. C. last June to Stand For Children, we were continuing the mission response that is part of our heritage as God's Good News Women For Children!

..."Twick has watched UMW's caring, praying, studying and giving result in God love being planted on the cheeks and hearts of children across the United States and around the world." She urged us to review the current Response Magazine (September) and read about where the money has been spent to help people in other parts of the world.

...She remembers an African quote that she saw on the desk of Dropadai Rokaya: Train A Man and You Educate an Individual; Train A Woman And You Build A Nation!

...She Thanks God for the Good News Women like Molly George, Norma Kerhberg, Dropadai Rohaya, Caroling Mein and many others who are doing good and sharing what they have. She thanks God, that we are called to the mission of planting kisses on the cheeks of children across the United States and Around the World! In the Name of Jesus! Amen and Amen.

Greetings from Bishop Dan Solomon- Bishop Solomon said it was a great joy to be in a setting where the history of the church is being so dramatically presented and so happily celebrated. He thanked God for this gathering, which is representative across the life of Louisiana Methodists. He wants us to know that he is convinced that the first setting, is appropriately a setting with United Methodist Women. Eight years ago when he began his tenure as a bishop, the very first setting where he had an opportunity to bear witness and share a word in that site was with United Methodist Women. He said he hopes this conveys to us something of a commitment; the joy he has of being a part of this journey with us. In recognition on his part to Twick he said that not only women who train folks, built a nation, they built a church.

...Bishop Solomon spoke about the four C's. Consciousness of Mission: "The missionary movement moves on the wheel of United Methodist Women." The majority of the funding for world mission comes from United Methodist Women. Celebration: "United Methodist Women have helped the United Methodist Church to celebrate what God can do when we follow his teachings." Connection: "Giving leadership to make viable the connection between our life and mission--our unit--our church--the world. ...To make this dynamic connection between the mission field out there and the mission field right here." He said, "serving must also be where there is risk--not just where it is safe." And the last C, --profession to Christ: "The records from last year show that not one person joined the church on the profession of their faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Each person is urged to go back home and witness to others. He urged us to go back to our home churches to help bring souls to Christ. Hopefully, by next year, there won't be any barren churches, and there **will** be persons professing Christ as their Lord and Savior! He shared a few moments about his life with his mother, who is now 96, and his religious upbringing.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS - Gloria Bennett. The scene: It's a cold, dark rainy day--almost sound like yesterday, doesn't it? Except for the temperature. But it's winter and we are in Boston--the year is 1869, 127 years ago. Six ladies meet in a church to talk about how they can help the poor and the suffering. their plans sounded impossible to the men of that day.

But those six women managed to mold the women of their time into an organization which now has over a million members who together pledge and pay over 23 million dollars a year for Mission. Those six ladies had a Vision and they had Faith. They pledged two cents per week, \$1.04 per year, or a grand total of \$6.24 for the entire group. From \$6.24 to over 23 million dollars--we've come a long, long way--don't you think?

Look at the cover of your program. Our theme is "Come to the Fountain." Throughout this meeting we have seen many different vessels into which water may be poured and we have heard references to thirst and to water. She shared five definitions of fountain. "The source from which something proceeds or is supplied," is the one that applies to our officers.

Gloria asked that those persons who have held an office in UMW or predecessor organization on all levels to stand. She asked whether they ever felt that they were a source from which something proceeded or was supplied?

After quoting the scripture, Isaiah 58:11 - the newly elected and continuing officers were called to the altar. The Newly elected officers:

Evelyn Evans - Treasurer; Norma Winegeart - Chairperson, Nominating Committee;

Betty Tripp and Gail Epperson, Nominating Committee;

Re-elected for an Additional term:

Hilda Sills - Vice President; Marie Young - Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation; Harriette Elrod - Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach; Muriel Miller - Mission Coordinator for Social Action; Annette Fortuna - Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth; Rita Parham - Communications Coordinator;

Continuing in current Term:

Pat Cobb, President; Fannie P. Reddix, Secretary; Gwen Streams - Secretary of Program Resources; Joyce Armstrong, Joan Miller, Joyce Hazel, Ethel Lilly, Eloise Cox and Rosalie Pryor - Members, Committee on Nominations.

After the officers were installed, Gloria closed with the following prayer: Father, we thank you for calling these servants to share in the work of your kingdom. Grant them grace to give themselves wholly to this task and service. Grant them sincerity of heart and singleness of mind, and guide them continually so that they shall be like a spring of water and a fountain for the accomplishment of their purpose. Amen.

INVITATION TO 1997 ANNUAL MEETING - June Sanchez, President, New Orleans District extended an invitation to host the 1997 Annual Meeting at Dillard University in New Orleans, LA September 19-20, 1997. The invitation was accepted.

ADJOURNMENT - Following a few brief remarks by the president, and proper action by motion, Pat Cobb declared the Twenty Third Annual Meeting of Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women adjourned.

Fannie P. Reddix, Secretary
Pat Cobb, President

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Service of Holy Communion was held following the adjournment of Annual Meeting. Dr. Phil Woodland gave the meditation which was based upon John 13:14-15. "He has the power of God--he has the power of the world in his hands. "Fill us with your love, the water that I give is water of life--fill us with your love, the neighbors we have from you."

Communion was served by Reverends Larry Stafford; Larry Martin; Dave Fortuna; Joe Brown; Kibbie Hatfield; Lou Ann Hollis; Terry Love and Dr. Phil Woodland.

SENDING FORTH - Twick Morrison said that "It is time for God's refreshed, renewed Women to go forth from this place. We have come to the fountain like the Samaritan woman, we have encountered Jesus--the source of the living water. Like her we become evangelists!"

1996 SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

"Energizing" is just one of the words that adult participants used to describe the twenty-four children who were the first children to attend the children's session of our Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission that was held at Centenary College on July 25 through July 28. The children participated in worship services, engaged in the mission study "All Things Beautiful: Living in a Multicultural Society," reached out to the less fortunate at two mission sites in the city, and delighted us during fellowship. Having children participate in the school for the first time was mutually rewarding, and Cheryl Gillespie and all who helped in any way to make the children's mission experience a success are to be commended.

The 211 participants examined the historic roots of Methodism while studying the life and ministry of John Wesley in the context of his time. Exploring Wesley's understanding of the Christian faith and life hopefully resulted in a renewed vision of our mission in living out our faith. Some of us reflected on the life and witness of Christians, and the nature of the church in the fast-changing societies of China and Hong Kong. Others learned about the multicultural world in which we live, and identified ways to deal with the complex realities of an ever more diverse and often disturbing society. The study leaders very capably led the members of the classes in discussions, activities, reflection, and prayer.

Many of the participants expressed appreciation for having both classes in the same building and for the shuttle service that was provided.

Joyce Hazel, Dean

DISTRICT ELECTED LEADERS TRAINING

The District Elected Leaders Training was held at Newman United Methodist Church, October 19, 1996. The theme was, "Come to the Fountain." This year we asked the Lord, as we "Come to the Fountain," to plant in us the necessary determination, to arouse in us the fire of dedication, and finally, give us the energy, strength, and willpower to bring our gifts to their proper fruition.

It was a joy and a pleasure for Kathleen Conrad and me to serve as your leaders for DELT. We would like to thank all of the officers for their support. We were warmly welcomed by the Pastor, Rev. Ernest Scott and Mrs. Vonda Clark, President of the United Methodist Women of Newman United Methodist Church.

There were seventy-eight (78) persons who participated in the counterpart training; eleven (11) conference officers, sixty-seven (67) district officers and nine (9) of there were first timers.

The following tips were given for all United Methodist Women Leaders:

1. If a task is once begun, never leave it till it's done.
Be the labor great or small, do it well or not at all.

2. Leadership is action, not position.
3. Leadership is like beauty. It's hard to define, but you know it when you see it.
4. The leader who is centered and grounded can work with erratic people and critical group situations without harm.

Special thanks to all of the program participants: especially the speaker, Dr. Judy Black Avery, for giving a very inspirational message, Mrs. Harriette Elrod for the music and beautiful sending forth, and Mrs. Muriel Miller for the music during the closing session.

The evaluation forms showed that we had a fantastic DELT, but more time is needed in the training sessions.

Lois Heath, Chairperson

DATA

DISTRICT	MEMBERSHIP*
Acadiana	823
Alexandria	841
Baton Rouge	1561
Lake Charles	1339
Monroe	975
New Orleans	1324
North Shore	915
Ruston	910
Shreveport	1691
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	10,379*

*Numbers were taken from district reports. (all units did not give membership total)

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1997 DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	October	4	Sager Brown, Baldwin
Alexandria	October	4	First UMC, Marksville
Baton Rouge	November	8	Evangeline UMC, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	November	1	Oakdale UMC, Oakdale
Monroe	October	11	First UMC, Bastrop
New Orleans	October	4	Aurora UMC, Algiers
North Shore	October	14	First UMC, Hammond
Ruston	October	5	Arcadia UMC, Arcadia
Shreveport	October	12	Broadmoor UMC, Shreveport

LOCAL QUARTERLY REPORTS DUE DISTRICT TREASURER

February 15
May 15
August 15
November 15

DISTRICT QUARTERLY REPORTS DUE CONFERENCE TREASURER

March 1
June 1
September 1
December 1

